Daily Report

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FBIS-SOV-91-198 *11 October 1991*

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Arms Control & Disarmament

Vienna Seminar Outlines Defense Doctrine

LD1010200491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1134 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondent Vladimir Smelov]

[Text] Vienna, 10 Oct (TASS)—The seminar on military doctrines that is taking place here will exert a positive influence on the further deepening of trust and the expansion of cooperation in issues of guaranteeing stability and security in Europe. Confidence in this is heard in virtually every statement by participants in the Vienna forum, which has brought together high-ranking military representatives from 38 CSCE states.

Head of the Soviet delegation Colonel General Bronislav Omelichev, first deputy chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, who spoke today about the main guidelines for drafting the military doctrine of the renewed union of sovereign republics, has no doubts on this score, either. He noted that the extraordinarily dynamic processes of economic, political, and legal reform of society in the Soviet Union have directly affected the defense sphere as well, demanding radical revision of the principles of military structure and a change of military doctrine. This doctrine, he emphasized, has to be unified and based on a coalition—that is, it must take into account the fundamental provisions of national defense of all the republics that are to be part of the renewed union.

The Soviet general said that the doctrine of the renewed union, as an integral part of the overall scheme of national security, must represent a system of officially adopted and scientifically based views of war and how to avoid it, of military structure, and of preparation of the Union and of the unified Armed Forces to rebuff possible aggression. It must also contain views of how to conduct armed struggle to defend sovereignty and territorial integrity. In this, war is unconditionally rejected as a means for resolving disputes between states or contradictions of an economic, political, ideological, or any other nature.

We view our security as an integral part of universal security, and we connect it with ending the arms race and with real disarmament, B. Omelichev continued. As for the political side of the doctrine, its main guide is the peace-loving political course of the state. Many of its provisions are already being implemented: Withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary and the CSFR has been completed in full, and the withdrawal from the territory of Germany, Poland, and Mongolia continues. Talks will begin in the near future on relocating the Soviet brigade from Cuba. Preparations are being made for bilateral talks on the status of the troops present in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia, and on the deadlines and procedures for their withdrawal.

Evaluating the recently announced U.S. and Soviet reciprocal initiatives as a major step in further stabilizing the military-political situation in Europe and the whole world, Omelichev said the security of the Soviet Union under the conditions of the changing military-political situation should be ensured in two main areas. The first is nuclear deterrence, which will be guaranteed by reorganized strategic nuclear forces. The second area consists of maintaining conventional armed forces at the minimum strength for ensuring the territorial integrity and independence of the country, and in the case of aggression, its repulsion.

According to the speaker's testimony, the possibility is being worked out for profound transformations and significant cuts in the of army and troop administration. As a result a reorganized Armed Forces will arise, smaller in size and number, providing a real deterrent but not creating the threat of which the USSR was often accused in the past. It is envisaged that the Armed Forces will consist of four branches: Strategic Deterrent Forces, an Air Force, a Navy, and Land Defense Troops. In Omelichev's opinion, the preservation of a single strategic nuclear force with a strictly centralized system of operative command is important, as is a reliable system of defense and security completely excluding their unsanctioned use.

We will be continuing the course toward reducing arms production and cutting the military budget. In 1991, compared with 1988, deliveries of strategic missiles will be reduced by 40 percent, of medium tanks by 66 percent, of infantry combat vehicles by 80 percent, of field artillery guns by 60 percent, and of combat aircraft by almost 50 percent. In all, allocations for procurement of arms and equipment in the current year has fallen, in comparable prices, by nearly 25 percent.

In the interests of the consolidation the security system, trust-building measures, and the development of principles of partnership, the Soviet side called on military leaders to take more radical steps in reconsidering their strategic concepts, to give up their old postulates altogether, and to move on to closer cooperation and partnership. In its view, there are several ways to lessen the probability of crises: stepwise reduction of the armed forces of the countries of the world on the basis of multinational and bilateral treaties, as well as unilateral steps; enhancement of the role of the center in averting conflicts; and the use of military capabilities under the aegis of the United Nations.

Security Group Visits NATO Headquarters

LD0910181191 Moscow TASS in English 1308 GMT 9 Oct 91

[By correspondent Valeriy Shashkov]

[Text] Brussels October 9 TASS—A delegation from the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation has arrived in Brussels at the invitation of the NATO leadership.

The delegation is led by committee Chairman Vadim Zagladin, an adviser to President Mikhail Gorbachev. The delegation includes members of the Soviet and Russian parliaments, politicians, public figures, officers, researchers, economists and officials of the Soviet and Russian foreign ministries.

The aim of the visit is to familiarize the Soviet side with the main lines of NATO activities in the light of changes in the world, Europe and the Soviet Union and look for ways to enhance cooperation with this organization.

The agenda of the visit includes numerous meetings, conversations, round-table discussions and briefings at NATO headquarters and the general staff of the NATO Supreme Command in Europe.

Until recently, NATO was viewed in the Soviet Union as a military alliance par excellence. This Soviet delegation is keen on finding out more about other spheres of its activity—political, economic and scientific.

The hosts, on the other hand, will be able to get a much clearer idea of processes in the Soviet Union.

The visit reflects the interest in establishing direct contacts with representatives of the Soviet community, which can help overcome the enemy image fostered for decades and transfer to partnership relations in many fields where the interests of NATO and the Soviet Union coincide.

Worldwide Issues

Bangkok Delegation To Seek IMF Membership

OW1010211291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1945 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A representative Soviet delegation plans to attend an annual session of the International Monetary Fund [IMF] to hold talks and consultations concerning the prospect of this country's becoming a full-fledged member of the International Monetary Fund, said the Soviet Foreign Ministry to IF [INTERFAX]. The session is opening in Bangkok on Tuesday, October 15.

The Soviet delegation, which is to fly to Thailand on Friday, October 11, includes governors of the State Bank and the USSR Vneshekonombank (bank for foreign trade), Victor Gerashchenko and Yuri Moskovskiy, respectively, deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Ernest Obminskiy [spellings as received] and representatives of Russia, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan. It is led by deputy chairman of the Committee for the Operational Management of the National Economy Grigori Yavlinskiy [spelling as received].

U.S., German Statements on Europe Welcomed

LD1010151691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1411 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By diplomatic correspondents Viktor Bezbrezhnyy and Viktor Runov]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Oct (TASS)—The Soviet Union welcomes the statement by James Baker and Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the leaders of the foreign policy departments of the United States and Germany, respectively, about steps to develop and strengthen the new European architecture. This was declared today at a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists by Vitaliy Churkin, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate.

Our country, he said, positively appraises the fact that NATO is seeking its place in the new circumstances, in which the period of confrontation is over—forever, let us hope—and in which Europe must overcome bloc-based approaches and become really unified. We are pleased to note, Vitaliy Churkin stressed, that attention to the Helsinki process is intensifying in the NATO leadership. As for the Soviet Union, it is ready to initiate all-round contacts with the North Atlantic Alliance.

Gorbachev Receives New Foreign Ambassadors

LD0510140991 Moscow TASS in English 1357 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 5 TASS—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev received in the Kremlin today credentials from ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Niger—Ousmane Moutari, Morocco—Abdesslam Zenined, Cabo Verde—Louis de Matos Monteiro da Fonseca, Namibia—Nicky Panduleni Nashandi, Kenya—Dixon Ireri Katamban, Switzerland—Jean-Pierre Ritter, Tanzania—Wislon Kamuhabwa Tibaijuka and Venzuela—Rafael Leon Morales.

After credentials were presented, Gorbachev conferred with the new ambassadors. Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin attended the credentials presentation ceremony and took part in the talk.

NATO's New Role: 'Counterweight' to Russia

PM1110094991 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Oct 91 First Edition p 3

[By TASS correspondent V. Vasilets: "NATO Will Create New Political Order From Vancouver to Vladivostok. And Serve as Counterweight to Powerful Russia"]

[Text] Ottawa, 9 Oct—Speaking at a symposium devoted to the future of NATO, Manfred Woerner stressed that under the new conditions the role of the North Atlantic bloc will not diminish. He said that one of the most important tasks today is to create a new political order

that "will really put an end to the old division and extend from Vancouver to Vladivostok."

In the opinion of the NATO secretary general, the situation in the Soviet Union is an example of the dangers and uncertainties that the world is now encountering. "It is perturbing that one of the most unstable countries in the world is the same country with 30,000 nuclear weapons. We must also remember that Russia alone is bigger than the United States and Canada together. Either alone or within a confederation with neighboring republics, Russia will remain, given its geopolitical mass and still powerful military machine means, an important protagonist in European affairs. A strategic counterweight to it is still needed."

NATO Combat Readiness Solutions Viewed

PM1010130591 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Oct 91 First Edition p 3

[Article by correspondent Colonel V. Markushin: "Take Your Greatcoat and Go Home? NATO Countries' Armies Have Greeted Decree on Thesis of 'Soviet Military Threat' in far From Identical Way"]

[Text] What fights should we prepare for now? Whom should we deter and restrain? These questions are now arising more than sporadically in the heads of NATO officers and soldiers. Since the August events in the USSR, many of them have wondered: What is the determining criterion of national security in the absence of the "Soviet military threat"? Although NATO officials continue to speak of the instability in the Soviet Union, most officers and soldiers feel there is no longer the former readiness for a "decisive battle" in central Europe.

We shall not say that the disappearance of the threat has been interpreted identically and with relief in the NATO armies. On the one hand it is a case of those who built their professional careers on the propaganda of the "Soviet threat" and who absorbed the philosophy of the "frontline" fighter," who from the time they were cadets had prepared themselves for "big league" combat service, who view peaceful garrison routine condescendingly. The "threat from the East" has gone, and their sense of being part of something big has been lost.

But others, and they are in the majority, are worried by something else. Recently I talked with Major N. Satten [name as transliterated], commander of a company in the British Berlin brigade's Scottish regiment. He is afraid that during the future reform of the British armed forces his dear regiment may amalgamate with another. Satten is sure that this would be a dramatic event for his regiment, formed in 1794. It will lead to the loss of traditions and symbols and have a bad effect on the morale of soldiers and officers.

These people are waiting in fear the planned reduction, which brings with it the collapse of their life plans. The threat of being outside their home garrison is for them more terrible than the "Soviet threat."

In the Bundeswehr, to judge by the reports in some newspapers, matters are also far from well regarding drafted servicemen's awareness of their mission. After all, they are already speaking of a "crisis of motivation." In particular that was the conclusion reached by a special government commission that spent a whole year analyzing the state and development prospects of the country's armed forces. The commission members, who include well-known political scientists, former officers, and journalists, believe that, in connection with the altered situation, the country's leadership should study the question of creating a professional army. The supporters of a professional Bundeswehr believe that a volunteer soldier will be more receptive to "new ideas."

And so the new situation, despite its undeniably positive nature, has given rise to certain difficulties, which are very difficult to overcome. Our problems are very similar to those being encountered today in the NATO armies. Hence the entirely explicable interest in what Western specialists are suggesting to preserve the troops' combat capability.

As before, emphasis is on propaganda. For instance, here the Americans have plenty of experience. Has the likelihood of war declined? Yes, it has, they agree. But they add: There is a danger that the world may erupt into war in an instant during which the many years of training and professional martial labor will be repaid a hundred times over. A reduction of troops? That is right. After all the U.S. people will use these reductions to equip its soldiers with first-class weapons so that they do not go into battle in the 21st century with helicopters from Vietnam days. That is understood both in Congress and in the barracks. Congressmen are correspondingly imbued with concern for the military budget, and many officers and soldiers are abandoning their doubts as to the need for their martial labor.

But both the United States and the other NATO countries believe that the propaganda on the need for military strength will not solve the problem of maintaining the troops' combat readiness at a certain level. It must be reinforced with other arguments. At Fort Bragg and Fort Knox, the biggest U.S. combat training centers, it is said that the soldier loses faith in his mission forever if combat training drills begin to "mark time," because the army lives only by this training.

With their inherent efficiency, the Americans are seeking to avoid this. And they are doing so very successfully. I had occasion to be convinced of this for myself when, at U.S. bases, I observed the morning calisthenics, whose intensity could not fail to strike me; at the mini-firing ranges with computer games; during the rehearsal of training raids "into the enemy's rear" on helicopters; and in the classrooms equipped with every kind of "thinking" technology. In that sense the following element is eloquent. Counter to the overall trend toward the

reduction of military appropriations, spending on the elaboration of new technical training means will continue to increase. The aim does not give rise to doubts, but increases the effectiveness of exercises and the soldiers' interest in them.

Finally, the material and daily routine aspect. For all the prosperity and affluence of the NATO countries, the salary of servicemen against the background of the earnings of highly qualified civilian specialists looks extremely modest. That is why material incentive measures remain a constant concern. Even more attention is paid to them today. This concern is embodied in a ramified system of social programs that are as important to servicemen as their fixed salary. The opportunity to acquire a civilian speciality, advantages in being taken on for work after demobilization, large sums in terminal allowances, free medical services, garrison stores with lower prices—these are just a few of the benefits that servicemen in the West value very highly.

As we can see, so far the NATO countries have not invented anything supernatural in resolving a question that is vital for everyone—why and how to retain the proper level of combat readiness in the armed forces. Time will tell whether new steps are taken in this field.

United States & Canada

Gorbachev, Jewish Leader Discuss Anti-Semitism

OW1110095691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0844 GMT 11 Oct 91

["Excerpts" from the talk between USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev and Shoshana Cardin, in Moscow on 2 October, from the "Nation & Society" feature; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Shoshana Cardin is chairwoman of the U.S. Association of Jewish Organisations with a 4 million membership out of the 5.5 million U.S. Jewish community. Cardin also heads the National Congress on the Problems of Soviet Jews.

While visiting Moscow with the U.S. delegation at the Human Dimension Conference, Shoshana Cardin was received by President Gorbachev October 2.

Excerpts from that talk are offered by INTERFAX for your attention in this issue of NATION & SOCIETY.

Mikhail Gorbachev opened the conversation by expressing hope that Soviet-American cooperation should further develop for the good of the entire Soviet people including its integral part—the Soviet Jews. We are not going to stimulate or in any way encourage the emigration of Soviet Jews—added Mikhail Gorbachev—on the contrary, we hope that even those who have left will return or, at least, come to visit this country and keep up their ties with their motherland.

The atmosphere of our relations has markedly improved in the recent years—noted Mikhail Gorbachev. Many American citizens, some businessmen among them, have actively contributed to that improvement. People travel back and forth...and finally make their decision as to where they would be better off, and this is as it should be.

Touching on the relations between the USSR and Israel, Mikhail Gorbachev noted their further development. We keep nudging each other in various directions, he said. They are prodding us to establish diplomatic ties, we are mooting the questions of Middle East settlement. We'd better set up a wide range of links, stressed the Soviet President. As I am told, he went on, nearly each third Israeli citizen has roots in this country. Some people say you hear more Russian spoken there than here. They didn't know where they were while visiting—in Israel or Moscow.

Discussing further the problems of Soviet Jews, Gorbachev said: "We have approached a new stage in solving a complex of issues concerning our Jewish community. Let's not idealize the situation: we still have manifestations of antisemitism. Not on any large scale, though. That's characteristic of Great Power fans, while our society at large is free of that malaise."

Shoshana Cardin appreciated the president's feelings and observations. She said his speech at the opening of the Human Dimension Conference had greatly impressed her and her colleagues, though, as she thought, that speech wasn't noticed enough in the USSR.

"We were all impressed by your speech," repeated Mrs. Cardin, "but I must say we are worried by continued antisemitic outbursts in the Soviet Union, particularly in some mass media."

Gorbachev: I know the magazines you mean, I can name them myself. The natural position to me is condemnation of any ethnic intolerance, such as antisemitism. But you should bear in mind our present situation with extremely tense inter-ethnic relations. There's friction even between Russians and Ukrainians. It's hard to single out one problem from all that context and thus to give it priority before others, as if we were sorting them out into first, second, and so on classes. I have enough proof of opposing all manifestations of nationalism, chauvinism, antisemitism—all that sows discord in our society. But I repeat: we have a most difficult situation in that respect. Still, I keep those problems in mind, the Jewish problem included—not that it has reached dangerous proportions, but to keep it down we have to mind it, to prevent the spread of this infection.

Cardin: We are not for singling this problem out of all others, but we would like antisemitism to be mentioned among other forms of nationalism and chauvinism. We must note that under your leadership your country has had enormous positive changes. That's felt in questions of emigration, in chances to practice one's own religion and develop national culture. But worry still persists on a number of issues. Then Shoshana Cardin went on to

the problem of so-called "refuseniks," that is Soviet Jews refused permission to emigrate due to their knowledge of state secrets. The term of delay for this reason can exceed five years. Another curb on emigration concerns young army draftees. Cardin expressed a wish that this should be settled in such a way as to concern only those young men who have just a few months before being drafted, not to damage their whole life, particularly in case of the very young. We very much hope to have this problem solved on the whole, said Shoshana Cardin.

Gorbachev: There are some reasonable limits on emigration connected with state secrets, but they are not on a national scale. Still, we have to examine once again what sort of secrets are those that keep their worth more than 5 years. We'll look at the problem from the modern point of view.

After her talk with Mikhail Gorbachev, Shoshana Cardin shared her impressions with journalists and remarked that the latter words by the President suggested that after the recent putsch the whole problem of Jewish emigration could be treated in a new way. Gorbachev observed in their conversation, incidentally, that the Jewish community responded to the failed putsch by a dip in the number of applications for emigration.

The talk of Mikhail Gorbachev with Shoshana Cardin wasn't all confined to Jewish questions and emigration, but included a broader range of issues.

Shoshana Cardin asked Mikhail Gorbachev if he wouldn't wish to send a message to her community in the United States which it would be her pleasure to deliver. She also asked what they could do to help the USSR in its progress towards democracy.

Gorbachev: We have changed a lot in the framework of new relations between countries and nations, particularly between the Soviet Union and the United States. So, those relations would have in future our particular care. Little could be done in the world without those new Soviet-American relations. We are seeking further chances for their harmonisation. The U.S. Jewish community (businessmen in particular) would be welcome to assist our economy at this stage of the reform. They needn't wait for clear weather, so to say. Anyone is glad to sail with fair wind, but it takes guts to set out in a storm. But we are confident the sky will clear soon and offer new possibilities.

Cardin: Can we invite you to speak in our congress during your next visit? That would help a large part of our society get rid of their prejudices.

Shoshana Cardin went on to relate her recent appearance in the U.S. Senate Financial Committee when she urged removing trade barriers and granting the USSR a most-favoured-nation status.

Gorbachev: There are still curbs on the American side which are left over from the cold war and no longer justifiable. That concerns the handover of various technologies, for instance. They could be exchanged to mutual benefit, but the process is hampered by obsolete and meaningless limitations.

We are all for pursuing new policies in questions of emigration, but...while we are becoming more open in that respect, we come up against limits clamped on by the American side.

Among questions of a general nature Shoshana Cardin asked President Gorbachev: "What are the prospects of coping with your painful problems arising from the centre's relations with the republics?"

Mikhail Gorbachev replied that an agreement had been reached in Alma-Ata on an economic community, on the general rules for the market, finance, and banking. This is accompanied with a political process which ought to result in a new Union treaty. The old Union has passed away, and we witness the birth of a new one, said Mikhail Gorbachev. That requires coordination with a respective coordinating body at the Union level dealing with foreign policies, foreign economic links, defence, ecology, market, energy, and science. All that should be done with a new degree of freedom for the republics. The main thing is that the freedom should be felt not so much by new administrations, but by producers, enterprises who should be its true beneficiaries. We are moving in the direction of a real Union of Free Sovereign States. With some pessimism expressed in that respect only two days before the meeting in Alma-Ata, it's only too good that 12 republics resolutely backed an economic agreement once they got there. I'm convinced we should follow life's own logic, then we'll get over the logic of false national pride.

I know, said Mikhail Gorbachev, that I'm repeating myself these days. But your question is far from idle, so I have to do it, for the world wants to know who it will be dealing with in the near future.

Pankin Meets U.S. Ambassador Strauss

LD1010100291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2010 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 9 Oct (TASS)—USSR Foreign Minister Boris Pankin received U.S. Ambassador Robert Strauss today. During the conversation, which passed in a spirit of mutual understanding, topical questions of Soviet-U.S. relations were discussed, the USSR Foreign Ministry's information directorate reports.

Boris Pankin stressed that following the victory of the democratic forces in the USSR, relations between our countries have entered a qualitatively new stage. They are characterized by active interaction and closeness of positions and interests, as far as most international problems of greatest importance are concerned. They are relations of a growing partnership and friendship. The Soviet side is grateful to the United States Government and people for solidarity with the democratic forces

during our difficult August days and for supporting the revolutionary transformations in the USSR.

For his part Robert Strauss emphasized that unprecedented opportunities are currently opening up for our two countries to interact closely and that the U.S. leadership is resolved to make use of them.

In this connection, he confirmed the U.S. Administration's high appraisal of the very important proposals contained in USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev's 5 October 1991 statement and came out for a faster progress in real nuclear disarmament.

The USSR foreign minister noted that the reciprocal initiatives of the USSR and the U.S. presidents make it possible to ensure a decisive breakthrough in the cause of radical nuclear arms cuts and strengthening security in the world.

Both sides expressed the conviction that the time has now come to stimulate the cooperation between the two countries in the economic area in just as powerful a manner. All artificial obstacles should be removed.

Northeast Asia

Treaty Progress With Japan Foreseen

OW1110100891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0828 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 11 KYODO—The Soviet Union's leading Japan policymaker foresees positive developments, including progress on concluding a peace treaty, coming from next week's visit of Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama.

Aleksandr Panov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Bureau on Pacific and East Asian Affairs, indicated he was optimistic there would "probably be progress on the conclusion of a peace treaty which would include the issue of the disputed territories."

The Japanese Government announced earlier this week a willingness to offer 2.5 billion dollars in emergency aid to the Soviets for progress in the reversion of four Soviet-held islands of Hokkaido.

In an exclusive interview Friday with the KYODO, Panov said Nakayama and Soviet leaders "can likely reach some agreements in content on technical aspects" of a peace treaty during the Japanese Foreign Minister's weeklong visit which begins Saturday.

Panov said he wanted to see the formal signing of an agreement permitting visa-free travel between Japan and the Soviet-held islands of Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan, and the Habomai group off Hokkaido.

The islands, claimed by Japan under an 1855 treaty with Russia, have been occupied by the Soviet Union since the end of World War II, preventing the conclusion of a peace treaty and obstructing the extension of official aid from the Japanese to the Kremlin.

Panov said Friday he hoped a schedule for working level talks for the peace treaty negotiations can be arranged during Nakayama's visit.

"We need to prepare (for the treaty negotiations) with a philosophy of new perspectives and new bilateral relations," said Panov, stressing the necessity of fundamental changes in the negotiations.

Panov cautioned that remarks by Russian Federation Asian affairs head Mikhail Ivanov on Tuesday were not the official stance of the Russian Government.

On Tuesday, Ivanov said Soviet leaders are prepared to discuss "all issues," which Japanese officials interpreted as meaning the Kremlin appears ready to recognize Japanese sovereignty over the Shikotan and the Habomai group under a 1956 joint statement that was later voided by the Soviets.

Panov stressed Friday Soviet and Russian foreign affairs officials needed to unify their positions and decide on the Russian role in the next Japan-Soviet treaty talks.

Regarding proposals by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to cut Soviet troop strength by 700,000, Panov said the reductions would be appropriately applied to the Soviet Far East.

He added that the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the disputed islands as promised by Gorbachev during his April visit to Tokyo is under way, but the withdrawal for technical reasons will take time.

Japanese Embassy's View on Kuril Islands

PM1110103591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Oct 91 Single Edition p 5

[Letter to editorial office from Japanese Embassy: "About Islands That Are Close To Us"]

[Text] We read with interest the article in your paper of 18 September this year called "About Our Most Distant Islands." We welcome lively discussion about an unsettled question in our relations. However, several claims made by Mr. Khudyakov, the writer of the article in question, are based either on inaccuracies or errors, and we would like to clarify certain factors.

First, Mr. Khudyakov's claim that this land "cost the Soviet Union by no means little blood in 1945" does not correspond to the historical facts. The Soviet Union entered the war with Japan on 9 August 1945; six days later, Japan accepted the conditions of the Potsdam Declaration. On 16 August 1945 the order was issued to all subunits of the Japanese Army to cease combat operations. Iturup Island was occupied 28 August, and the islands of Kunashir, Shikotan, and the Habomai chain were occupied in the period 1 through 3 September 1945; no military actions were conducted during this,

and not one Soviet soldier was killed. The occupation of Itrup, Kunashir, Shikotan, and Habomai islands was bloodless.

Second, the author of the article claims: "If the South Kurils belonged to someone else, we would inevitably have to pay in hard currency for the passage of Soviet shipping." That is quite impossible. There is no instance in which we impose payment for the passage of foreign shipping through the gulfs adjoining Japan.

Third, Mr. Khudyakov makes a number of unsubstantiated claims on the question of the international legal status of the four northern islands. We would like to correct here some of the errors.

In the first place, Mr. Khudyakov states: "There exists also the Helsinki Agreement, which states postwar boundaries are not subject to revision." What has the Helsinki Agreement got to do with anything here? It talks only of European state boundaries. Moreover, the problem of the northern territories is that the postwar boundary here has not yet been established.

Second, Mr. Khudyakov claims that "no official documents 'severing' these territories from the USSR exist." However, it is clearly stated in the Joint Japanese-Soviet Declaration, signed in 1956 and ratified by the parliaments of both countries, that Habomai and Shikotan Islands would be transferred to Japan after the conclusion of a peace treaty. In addition, in the "Matsumoto-Gromyko Messages" of 29 September 1956, the sides agreed that "talks concerning the conclusion of a peace treaty, which will include the territorial question, will be continued even after the restoration of normal diplomatic relations."

Third, Mr. Khudyakov states that the Yalta Agreement, the Potsdam Declaration, and other documents "juridically assigned the territory of the South Kurils to the Soviet Union." However, the Yalta Agreement was only a document in which the heads of three states—the United States, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union—expounded their common goals. Moreover, at the time the conditions of the Potsdam Declaration were accepted, Japan did not even know of the existence of the Yalta Agreement. As for the Potsdam Declaration, it states that on the question of Japanese territories, the articles of the Cairo Declaration of 1943 should be applied. And the Cairo Declaration clearly proclaims the principle of the nonextension of territories. In any case, a postwar territorial settlement should be achieved once and for all through a peace treaty.

To state Japan's position on the issue of these islands briefly, Japan is not making demands on territories that have belonged to the Soviet Union since time immemorial. Japan is not seeking any small economic advantages and is not attempting to do a deal of the "islands in exchange for economic cooperation" but seeks only for the problem to be solved on the basis of the principles of legality and justice. At the time of the conclusion of the Treaty [traktat] on Friendship and Trade in 1855, which inaugurated diplomatic relations between Japan and Russia, we confirmed the borders that had already evolved by natural processes between us as of that time. Until the end of World War II, neither the Russian nor Soviet governments expressed any doubt that the four northern islands belonged to the territory of Japan.

In his article Mr. Khudyakov also touches on the question of the local population of the four northern islands. Recalling the fate of the 17,000 Japanese who lived for long years on these four islands and who in 1947, with no form of compensation, were forcibly expelled from their homeland with many tragic consequences, we think that such a tragic experience should not be repeated. Accordingly, we fully understand that the interests and human rights of the local population should be taken into consideration.

With the victory of democracy in your country, a fine chance has been presented to discuss the problem of the northern territories rationally, to resolve it on the basis of the principles of legality and justice, and to conclude a Japanese-Soviet peace treaty. In the same way we wish to build genuine good-neighborly relations with the Soviet Union, relations that would not only play a large role in strengthening peace and stability in the Asian-Pacific region and the whole world, but also bring real benefits for the peoples of both Japan and the Soviet Union. [signed] the Japanese Embassy

Near East & South Asia

Pankin Meets PLO's 'Abbas, Delegation

LD1010203691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1912 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 10 Oct (TASS)— USSR Foreign Minister Boris Pankin today received a PLO Executive Committee delegation led by Mahmud 'Abbas, which is in Moscow for a regular meeting of the Soviet-Palestinian working committee on the Near East. Sulayman al-Najjab and Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, members of the PLO Executive Committee, are also in the delegation.

During the discusion, Boris Pankin informed the Palestinian representatives of preparations for the peace conference on the Near East. The Palestinians informed the USSR foreign minister of the main results of the session of the Palestine National Council, which took place from 23 to 28 September in Algeria. Overall, the Palestinian side expressed a positive appraisal of the proposed Soviet-American concept of the peace process in the Near East. However, a number of concerns of the PLO leadership were expressed regarding the present situation in the occupied Palestinian lands.

During the meeting, the sides agreed to continue contacts toward achieving real progress in the Near East settlement on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

On the same day, a meeting of the Soviet-Palestinian working committee on the Near East took place at the USSR Foreign Ministry. The Soviet side was led by USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Belonogov, the Palestnian side by Mahmud 'Abbas.

Relations With Iran Steadily Improve

OW0910184691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1723 GMT 9 Oct 91

[By Mikhail Mayorov and Igor Porshnev from "Diplomatic Panorama"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Recently a post with eased rules for crossing the border with Iran was opened outside Gaudan-Pachkiran in Turkmenia. Now each resident of the 45-kilometer border zone will be able to travel to the neighbor country four times a year for no more than 15 days or receive guests from there. With this aim in view he or she must have an invitation from the Iranian side or know the exact address of those who invited him. Besides, he must have a permit from interior ministry agencies and from the border zone's leadership. For the time being the post with eased rules for crossing the border is open only two days a week and its capacity is limited: 50 persons in both directions. However its capacity will increase in the near future. There are plans to open additional posts with eased rules on the Soviet-Iranian border.

In the past few years political, economic and other relations between the USSR and Iran have steadily improved. This led to opening posts with eased rules for crossing the border, said a prominent member of the USSR foreign ministry's South-West Asia department. In February last year Tehran was visited by deputy Soviet foreign minister Boris Chaplin, he told DP's [Diplomatic Panorama] correspondent.

During his visit two memoranda were signed: on easier rules for crossing the Soviet-Iranian border by the two countries' citizens residing in the border areas, and on the terms for exchanging trips at the invitation of relatives and friends. Under these documents posts with eased rules for border crossing, such as the one outside Gaudan-Pachkiran, were opened. The first three posts were set up in the Azeri sector of the border. The new one is the first such post on the Soviet-Iranian border on the other side of the Caspian Sea. There are plans to have 11 such posts, the diplomat said. The opening of more posts with eased rules for border crossing is delayed for purely technical reasons connected with their building, the Soviet diplomat pointed out.

Soviet Mideast Policy Turning 'Pro-American'

PM1010150291 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Oct 91 Single Edition p 5

[By correspondent Vladimir Belyakov: "What Is the Poor Arab To Do?"]

[Text] Cairo—The August events in our country and their consequences prompted a more mixed reaction in the Arab world than in the West, and not because democratic traditions do not have such deep roots in this region as, say, in Europe. The Arabs assess the situation from an entirely different standpoint. They view its effects on the distribution of forces in the world and its influence on the Near East. Here there are considerable disappointments, misgivings, and even bitterness.

We often say nowadays that in the past, in the period of confrontation between the two world systems, many developing states profited from the rivalry between the the USSR and the United States. That did undeniably happen. South Yemen, for instance, received lavish aid from us because it was regarded as an "outpost of socialism" in southern Arabia. President al-Sadat's Egypt, for its part, was able to milk the United States because it was regarded as an "outpost of the struggle against communism."

This is indeed becoming a thing of the past now; however, that is not what worries many people in the Arab world. Ideologically based generosity is only one aspect of the problem, and anyway not many people benefited from it. Another, more serious aspect is that the Arab peoples more than once drew effectively on the Soviet Union's assistance in the struggle against colonialism and for independence and freedom.

The Soviet Union used its veto in the UN Security Council for the first time in February 1946, blocking a U.S. resolution that envisaged prolonging the presence of British and French troops in Syria and Lebanon. As a result, the two Arab states gained true independence by the end of the year. The evacuation days of the foreign troops are marked as national holidays to this day.

In 1956, at the height of the triple Anglo-Franco-Israeli aggression against Egypt, the Soviet Union called the aggressors sharply to order. As was noted in the 5 November "Bulganin memorandum," which is well known among the Egyptians, the Soviet Government was fully resolved "to use force to crush the aggressors and restore peace in the East." Two days later, hostilities ceased. Egypt retained its independence and its right to control the Suez Canal. Incidentally, one of our high-ranking military men told me recently that at the time Bulganin and Khrushchev were bluffing. It was not possible at short notice to ship Soviet troops to Egypt or strike a blow against the aggressors. But that is beside the point.

At the beginning of the 1960's, the Soviet Union gave political and material aid to the Algerian people, who were waging a protracted armed struggle against the French colonialists. It is generally recognized that this aid helped Algeria to acquire independence in 1962.

After the military defeat of Egypt in the Israeli aggression of 1967, the Soviet Union helped it to restore and rearm

its Army. As a result, six years later the Egyptians successfully crossed the Suez Canal and liberated part of the occupied Sinai.

To this day we have every reason to be proud of these chapters in Soviet-Arab relations. After all, it was not a question of ideologically motivated Soviet support for "left-wing" regimes, but of the peoples' struggle for independence and against aggressors. Of course, here too it would be possible to argue about what first prompted this support—concern for justice or ideology. I remember well, for instance, how 25 years ago, preparing to enter the institute, I studied a pamphlet on the national liberation movement, the main thrust of which was that it is the natural ally of the socialist camp in the struggle against imperialism and must therefore be supported. But something else must also not be forgotten: It was the Soviet Republic, as early as the end of 1917, which, in Lenin's well-known declaration "To All Working Muslims of Russia and the East," declared the right of oppressed peoples to independence and self-determination. Any educated Arab nowadays can tell you about that declaration. So in this case ideology and justice coincided.

But who will support the Arabs today, if they are subjected to aggression or strong-arm pressure from the West? A rapid process of disintegration of the Soviet Union is taking place, and what is worse, in the view of many people in the Arab world, Soviet Near East policy is losing its identity, or rather, becoming pro-American.

This trend was first seen during the Kuwait crisis. At that time the USSR voluntarily let the United States take the initiative in settling the crisis and even played along with them. We only came to our senses when the war was in full swing, when a sea of blood had been spilled and it was too late.

We also let the Americans take the initiative in preparing for the international peace conference on the Near East. They did substantial work in this direction—in accordance, naturally, with their own very one-sided ideas on what the peace process should look like. We, for our part, having agreed to act as co-initiators of the conference after preparations were nearly complete, in effect accepted the American terms for its convocation.

After the August events, this trend intensified. In the United Nations, the Soviet foreign minister followed the U.S. President in demanding the repeal of the General Assembly resolution describing Zionism as a form of racism and racial discrimination. This resolution was adopted in 1975 with the USSR's active support. We supported it at the time because Israel's ruling Zionist clique was flouting the national and personal rights of Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular, denying them on racial grounds things that went without saying for Jews. What has changed since then? Policy? Yes, but not Israel's. The Palestinian people are still deprived of the right to self-determination. In the occupied Palestinian territories, human rights are still violated. Defenseless civilians die there at the hands of armed aggressors. In September the number of victims during the Intifadah was increased by 17, four of them children. The Arab foreign ministers now have to rebuff not only the United States but also the USSR on this question in the United Nations.

Meanwhile the Palestinians, despite the bullets of the occupying forces, are protesting the settlement of Jewish emigres from the USSR in their lands. We say: We cannot ban emigration, it is a question of human rights. It is hard to object to that argument, especially since we have always added that we are opposed to the settling of emigres in the occupied territories. M.S. Gorbachev spoke about this again on 27 September in an interview for the Cairo newspaper AL-AHRAM. But three days later the first Soviet plane carrying Jewish emigres took off from Moscow to Tel Aviv. Is promoting their resettlement in Israel also a question of human rights? Not for nothing did Islamic Turkey, sympathizing with the Palestinians, divert this aircraft, although it was only carrying eight passengers. Organizing direct flights is not promoting emigration from the USSR but immigration to Israel and consequently the settlement of emigres in the occupied Palestinian lands.

Such trends in Soviet Near East policy, to say nothing of the breakup of the Union, lead many people in the Arab world to conclude that they no longer can rely on anyone to defend their legitimate rights. Moscow does not even want to listen to them properly now. According to the Cairo press, Egyptian President H. Mubarak flew back from Moscow disappointed. M.S. Gorbachev did not deem it possible to meet him at the airport, sending Ye.M. Primakov instead, while B.N. Yeltsin was away on vacation, although his meeting with Mubarak had been planned in advance.

I am convinced that the problem of the "disruption of the balance of forces" as a result of events in the USSR is well known not only to the Arab East but also to other Third World regions. Of course, you cannot bring back the old Union. But if the days of being the second superpower have gone for us, that does not mean that relations with the first and now sole superpower have to be built on the basis of gazing devotedly into its eyes.

East Europe

Troop Withdrawal From Poland Set

LD1010165591 Moscow TASS in English 1536 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By diplomatic correspondents Viktor Bezbrezhniy and Viktor Runov]

[Text] Moscow October 10 TASS—"The text of the Soviet-Polish treaty on the main principles of goodneighbourly relations and friendly cooperation has been preliminarily agreed," chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Information Directorate Vitaliy Churkin told a briefing here today.

The treaty was discussed during working meetings in Moscow between the foreign ministers of the two countries. They also fixed the deadlines for withdrawing Soviet troops from Poland. All Soviet combat units will be withdrawn by the end of 1992, and the rest—by the end of 1993.

Churkin also touched on prospects for the Polish president's visit to the USSR. He said the problem could be discussed by Foreign Ministers Pankin and Skubiszewski when they meet to initial the treaty.

Asked about Erich Honecker's plans to settle in Chile, Churkin said the Soviet Foreign Ministry had nothing to do with this.

Churkin also said the possibility Pankin and Baker meeting before the end of October was not ruled out.

Pankin on CSFR Treaty, Disarmament

AU0910161991 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 4 Oct 91 pp 1, 5

[Interview with Boris Pankin, USSR minister of foreign affairs, by Jan Petranek, in Prague on 3 October: "New Conditions—New Solutions"]

[Text] Before returning home from the UN General Assembly in New York, former Soviet ambassador to the CSFR and current USSR minister of foreign affairs, Boris Pankin, visited Prague. Together with Jiri Dienstbier, he asserted that the new Czechoslovak-Soviet treaty has been completed to the satisfaction of both sides and is ready to be ratified. Presidents Havel and Gorbachev will apparently sign it in the very near future. It is a treaty that has two "cousins"—the Polish-Soviet treaty and the Hungarian-Soviet treaty. The concluding of all three treaties has been hindered for a long time by an identical problem, and this hindrance was removed at the Prague talks of representatives of all four countries.

The springboard to better relations is ready. During his short sojourn in Prague, Boris Pankin granted our newspaper the following interview:

[Petranek] What was the road to the treaty between Czechoslovakia and the USSR like?

[Pankin] We managed—actually still in the "pre-coup" period—to reach an agreement on all parts of the treaty rather quickly. Thus only the so-called security issue about not joining alliances that are opposed to each other remained. The former Soviet leadership, referring to soldiers, refused to change its position. I represented the view that this problem must be dealt with in a modern way, considering that today nobody threatens anybody else, and that nobody intends to organize any alliances against anyone else. My opinion, however, did not find any support despite Mikhail Gorbachev sending a letter to President Havel, in which he expressed the hope that everything would be settled without problems. Following the failed coup, most of the people who had delayed the solution to this problem disappeared from the scene, and I immediately returned to it as to a problem of extraordinary importance. I obtained the support of President Gorbachev, and together with our Czechoslovak, Polish, and Hungarian partners, we have got things moving. Here in Prague, Aleksandr Lebedev drafted a universally acceptable formulation of the treaty according to my instructions. It draws on the principles of the UN Charter and the Charter of Paris, and the problem is thus completely solved.

[Petranek] You promised in the UN speech that many other disarmament issues would be dealt with very soon. The issues here are numerous. What will be emphasized?

[Pankin] I think that we will stress several aspects. While in the United States, I spent a lot of time on these problems. There were hours of talks, first with James Baker in Moscow, followed by discussions in Washington with him and later with President Bush. We prepared a kind of timetable that really is fast. All the nuclear disarmament issues will appear on the negotiating table—so far only between two parties (the United States and the USSR), but it cannot be ruled out that other nuclear powers might join in. It seems that at a certain stage England and France are willing to cooperate as experts.

[Petranek] And China?

[Pankin] Its participation has not been mentioned yet, but in time the logic of the developments will certainly bring us to one table.

[Petranek] So, what is the first item on the agenda?

[Pankin] Probably, the sum of the ideas and proposals included in President Bush's latest speech. In the very near future, Deputy Foreign Ministers Bartholomew and Obukhov will meet and start work. It is possible that they may now meet in Moscow rather than as late as 9 October in Washington, as announced.

[Petranek] Mutual trust is necessary for fundamental treaties on such a big issue as world peace. Apparently a shift in values occurred recently in this sensitive sphere, which is also difficult to define?

[Pankin] You are right. George Bush began Friday's speech with a reflection on the situation in the USSR. He spoke of an irreversible democratic development that permits us to transform our confrontational relations into friendly ones. He received an absolutely identical response from our side. We hope that friendly relations will prevail not only in the sphere of disarmament—although it is the most important one—but also in the spheres of economic and political cooperation. We

would like to coordinate our actions with the United States everywhere we can, and it could benefit us all.

[Petranek] What do you think of the Soviet republics' negotiations in Alma Ata?

[Pankin] Unfortunately, I have not had enough time to acquaint myself with the proceedings in detail. However the creation of an economic union is the most important task at this time. One can say that the process has begun. The state council, with which I collaborate, started work on this problem the very first morning following the Extraordinary Congress of People's Deputies.

[Petranek] There are many troubled regions in the USSR, "the hot spots"—what about them?

[Pankin] Unfortunately, they exist, and one cannot ignore them. They existed before but, at the time, all conflicts were smothered by force at an early stage, and the world could assume that there was calm. Under the new conditions, the problems and conflicts come to light. It will be necessary to use a new approach in dealing with them.

[Petranek] When will you next come to Prague?

[Pankin] If not earlier, then for the meeting of the CSCE foreign ministers in January.

[Bratislava VEREJNOST in Slovak on 5 October on pages 1 and 2 reports on Pankin's visit to Bratislava. It adds Pankin's response to VEREJNOST's request at a news conference for the minister's opinion on Slovakia's sovereignty. Pankin said "I have repeated many times that I do not intend to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, particularly since the pre-perestroyka Soviet Union won itself a bad reputation in this respect. Hence, it would be better now, to go by the proverb saying that it is better to blow even on cold milk.... So, I would like to wish every success to our good neighbor, the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. Let your people decide what kind of state it is to be. This issue is also very topical in our country, the USSR. We have a hard time dealing with it, and it is very painful."]

West Europe

Moscow Recalls Ambassador to Sweden

LD1010163391 Stockholm Sveriges Radio Network in Swedish 1545 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Soviet Ambassador to Stockholm Nikolay Uspenskiy has been ordered to end his duties in Stockholm and return to Moscow. Uspenskiy returned to Sweden three weeks ago, having been recalled to Moscow for consultations after he expressed his support for the men behind the August coup in Moscow.

Finland Notes Talks on Territories Possible

LD1010224191 Moscow TASS in English 2210 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondent Arkadiy Prisyazhny]

[Text] Helsinki October 10 TASS—Speaking at parliamentary hearings here on Thursday, Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Vaeyrynen did not rule out the possibility that in future, when the Soviet Union and Finland are ready for it, they may hold talks "on a new basis" about Karelia and Pechenga.

Asked about the government's position on current discussion in Finland about the return of a number of territories that had been ceded to the Soviet Union after the "winter war" of 1939-1940 and the Second World War, he stated that the cabinet of ministers still did not intend to lay any territorial claims on its neighbour.

In 1947 in Paris, Finland, together with the allies for the anti-Hitler coalition, signed a treaty under which it agreed with the transfer of Karelia, Pechenga and some other territories to the Soviet Union, Vaeyrynen said.

Finland, just like other member-states of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), pledged to refrain from laying territorial claims on other states, he pointed out.

At the same time the minister said that a change of borders was possible. But this may be done only on the basis of the CSCE principles and in accordance with international law by peaceful means, through agreements.

Vaeyrynen informed the deputies that Finland seeks to establish lasting and durable contacts with the Soviet Union's border regions.

With this end in view, it intends together with neighbours to work out a versatile programme for cooperation and wants, within the framework of a future treaty with Russia, to determine ways for cooperation with Karelia, Murmansk and St. Petersburg.

Latin America & Caribbean

Foreign Ministry Backs OAS Efforts on Haiti

LD1010134591 Moscow TASS in English 1301 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Sergey Staroselskiy]

[Text] Moscow October 10 TASS—"The Soviet Union backs the efforts of the Organisation of American States to settle the political crisis on Haiti, caused by the recent coup d'etat there," a high-ranking official of the USSR Foreign Ministry told TASS today. He said the election of former member of the Supreme Court Joseph Nerette

as provisional president of Haiti was "an attempt of the military and the politicians backing them to legalise the putsch".

"The overthrow of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, lawfully elected at the end of last year," the Soviet diplomat said, "patently proves the need of urgent international actions against anti-humane actions, undermining constitutional systems wherever they may occur. In light of this, particularly topical now is the proposal advanced by the 21st session of the OAS General Assembly to set up an operational mechanism to uphold democracy and enforce law and order in OAS states," the diplomat stressed.

Cuban, U.S. Perspectives on Ties Examined

92UF0052A Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Oct 91 p 5

[Article by PRAVDA correspondent A. Moiseyev: "Can David Be Reconciled With Goliath?"]

[Text] Havana—This plain seven-story building on Malecon is reminiscent in appearance of a huge matchbox. Built at the height of the "cold war" specially for the American Embassy, this building stood empty for some time following the severance of relations with revolutionary Cuba. But it is 14 years now that diplomats from the United States have been working in it once again. The U.S. Interests Section is now located here under the patronage of the Embassy of Switzerland.

The architectural ensemble, closely guarded by the Havana police, is complemented by an impressive electrified display opposite the front. The legend on it reminds people day and night: "Gentlemen imperialists, we do not fear you in the least!" Passing this handsome slogan, one has to linger at the glass sentry box. The Cuban guard carefully copies all the ID information, and further on, an American checkpoint in a small annex to the building. Passing, as in an airport, through the metal detector, I come within the sights of a duty officer in dress uniform standing to attention.

Through its representative at the United Nations, Cuba recently requested inclusion on the agenda of the upcoming General Assembly of the question of the adoption of measures pertaining to a termination of the economic blockade to which the United States has subjected the island for more than 30 years now. In Havana's opinion, such extremely strained relations between the two neighbors are inflicting tangible losses on both the people of Cuba and the United States, remaining dangerous destructive elements in the general process of an improvement in the international climate in this region.

It was this piece of news, appearing in the Cuban press, which had brought me to the American mission in Havana, where for the first time in the history of this department a Soviet journalist was allowed to engage in a piece of reporting.

"Procedure is procedure," David Evans, first secretary for the press, who greeted me in the section when, having complied with several further strict formalities, we finally made it to his office, said with a smile. I should caution people at once that our discussion was of a purely official nature and bears the imprint of the guarded and regulated nature of the words typical of diplomats. And further, it is particularly perceptible in the Interests Section how far we in the Soviet Union have come in respect of glasnost, having left even the Americans behind.

"Our countries agreed on the opening of a U.S. Interests Section in Havana in May 1977," Mr. Evans began the conversation. It was decided at that time also to open analogous missions in Washington and Havana simultaneously. In both locations they currently operate under the patronage of the Swiss embassies. From the very outset the U.S. Administration hoped for an improvement in relations with Cuba and set for the long term the goal of restoring relations at embassy level. It is to be regretted merely that this has not yet happened. The main function of our diplomatic mission in Havana was and remains a solution of emigre problems. The parties are displaying a mutual interest on this issue. Last year the section issued visas to approximately 36,000 Cuban citizens. A trend toward an increase in migration flows across the Straits of Florida is being observed, what is more.

Aside from the exercise of the customary emigration formalities, the section is implementing a program pertaining to the granting of visas to former Cuban political prisoners. It is well known that the United States agrees to take in annually up to 20,000 such persons from the most diverse states. Some 1,500 Cubans of 'this category' were issued visas last year, for example."

"A large group of prominent scholars of the United States studying problems of Latin America recently demanded of its government the restoration of diplomatic relations with Havana, ending the economic blockade of Cuba and abolishing the strict prohibitions preventing American citizens from freely visiting the island. What is your assessment of the relations between Washington and Havana," I asked.

"What Cuba calls a 'blockade' we consider economic sanctions, whose purpose is to demonstrate that the United States does not wish to support or strengthen this regime. I have no intention of portraying my country as of a harmless creature but I am convinced that the burden of the past, whatever it is, should not hamper a search for channels leading our states toward mutual understanding, prudent compromise and, as a result, a normalization of relations in the interests of the Cuban and American peoples. Mutual recrimination and an insistence on the preservation of prejudices will only prevent this. The economic sanctions, in our view, should accelerate the process of change on the island and

push Havana into the pursuit of a more open, tolerant—foreign and domestic—policy," my partner explained his viewpoint.

"The U.S. Government is endeavoring to build its policy on a basis of realism," D. Evans told me in conclusion. "And believe me, Americans, like all peoples, want only good neighbors in proximity to their borders...."

Leaving the house on Malecon Embankment, I once again glanced at the police surrounding it and the display with the unequivocal slogan.

The burden of mistrust is incredibly heavy. Cubans cannot forget a single American intervention in their country, a single attempt to stifle the revolution. And Washington is still counting the losses from the nationalization on the island of American property and nursing grievances at Havana's anti-imperialist rhetoric.

Nonetheless, the Cuban leadership has never ruled out the possibility of dialogue.

Addressing journalists, Ricardo Alarcon, first deputy foreign minister and permanent representative of the Republic of Cuba at the United Nations, confirmed his country's position, declaring: "Cuba has never invaded the United States. It has never occupied a part of American territory or subjected the United States to blockades and is merely accomplishing its revolution. The condition whereby Cuba could discuss anything with Washington remains what it was before: the most unswerving respect for our independence and sovereignty."

Washington's political pressure on Havana is, indeed, intensifying in all directions. At times it is decked out in a benevolent form. Thus U.S. President G. Bush recently proposed to the Cuban leadership a fundamental improvement in bilateral relations. The magnanimous and long-awaited step of the great northern neighbor had finally come, it seemed. But the conditions which were put to the Cubans by the American side proved absolutely unacceptable to the small but sovereign and independent republic. And yet again Washington's good intentions once again proved to be gaudily dressed diktat, for which there is hardly room in the civilized world community....

...A colorful comparison borrowed from the biblical legend of David and Goliath is popular on Cuba. "We have David's sling," the Cubans say, hinting at how an astute and dexterous person conquered the giant Goliath, who here, of course, is associated with the great northern neighbor.

But a legend is a legend, and in real life everything is far more complicated and serious. And there are currently very many people who are troubled by the question of whether David can be reconciled with Goliath. Not biblical but perfectly real people—two peoples, divided, alas, not only by straits.

Supreme Soviet

Interrepublican Group Readies for Supreme Soviet

Work Schedule Approved

LD1010213191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1737 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 8 Oct (TASS)—An interrepublican committee for the preparation of the first session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the new convocation continued its deliberations today.

Representatives of sovereign republics who took part in the session considered and approved the work schedule of the interrepublican committee for the period prior to the opening of the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet. It was decided to work every day.

According to the press center of the USSR Supreme Soviet, participants in the discussion agreed on their positions regarding the draft of the interim standing orders of the Soviet of the Republics, which will be presented for the chamber's approval on behalf of the committee. The draft of the interim standing orders of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the new convocation was considered and approved on the whole.

During a committed and responsible exchange of opinions, representatives of the republics discussed in detail questions connected with working out the draft of the interim standing orders of the Soviet of the Republics and the Soviet of the Union with regard to making joint decisions. Consideration of issues of the preparation of the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet will continue.

Committee Discussion 'Difficult'

PM1110085991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Oct 91 p 3

[M. Buzhkevich "Parliamentary News": "Session Just Around the Corner"]

[Text] The interrepublic committee to prepare for the session of the country's revamped Supreme Soviet, which is due to open 21 October, has been working for several days now. The committee comprises people's deputies of the USSR and Union republics—official representatives of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic], Belarus, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenia. Its meetings are attended by Ukrainian, Georgian, and Armenian representatives, as observers.

The preparatory committee has already discussed the draft procedure for the opening of the country's parliament and for the work of its first session. First there will be a joint session of the two chambers, the Soviet of the Republics and the Soviet of the Union. It will be conducted by the senior deputy. He will give the floor to the USSR president, who will make the opening speech. There will be no debate on this statement.

The country's new Supreme Soviet has a number of special features and differs from its predecessor. It comprises people's deputies of the USSR and the republics empowered by the republics' supreme organs of power. It is proposed that there be neither chairman nor presidium. The chairmen of the chambers will alternate in the chair at the joint sessions. One of the chambers—the Soviet of the Republics—acts as the upper chamber: It approves laws adopted by the other chamber—the Soviet of the Union.

In view of these and other innovations, provisional standing orders have to be approved for both chambers, as well provisional standing orders for their work of adopting joint decisions. The committee has virtually completed the drafts of these documents.

The committee's coordinator, USSR People's Deputy A. Sebentsov, told me that the committee's role was to help the parliamentary session get right into its stride, without any futile procedural wrangling; that is, to get down to work straightaway. The discussion in the committee has been difficult, with many arguments arising, often with a clash of opinion. But common sense is prevailing. The deputies are broadening their legal horizon. Positions gradually coming closer together, opportunities for compromise are found, and eventually there comes the moment of agreement.

The committee is working on a daily schedule. The most crucial and the Supreme Soviet items for inclusion on the session agenda. And some of them have to be polished to the point where the documents can be passed on to the commissions and committees formed by the chambers. According to Sebentsov, these questions will include, as well as procedural and organizational matters, problems connected with changes in the country's Constitution, laws on the activities of the USSR Supreme Soviet and its chambers, and on their jurisdiction, the very important but as yet very vague matter of forming the budget, and much else. In short, it is up to its ears in work, and 21 October is just around the corner.

Only Six Republics Attend

LD1110081391 Moscow TASS in English 0743 GMT 11 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS— As the Soviet Union breaks apart, only six republics—Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tadjikistan, Turkmenia and Russia—are attending a working meeting of the inter-republican committee to prepare the first session of the revamped Soviet parliament with its new composition.

The Ukraine, Armenia and Georgia joined in earlier discussions several times as observers.

The session has been postponed until October 21 because some republics have yet to form delegations to the national legislature and decide how they will participate in its work.

Under the law on state bodies of power during a transitional period, the Soviet parliament is the supreme legislative body in the country.

The meeting is expected to work out a procedure for opening the session and set temporary time-limits for the session to set up working bodies and make decisions.

Its agenda will include organisational questions concerning the current situation and the future of the country.

Political & Social

State Council Meets on Economy, Food

Session Previewed

LD1010162691 Moscow TASS in English 1512 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Petrenko]

[Text] Moscow October 10 TASS—The Soviet State Council is expected to meet in Moscow on Friday [11 October] to discuss the situation in the country.

The Council is expected to discuss economic community and food agreements between republics. Participants will discuss preparing a treaty of the union of sovereign states. The draft has been prepared and submitted to republican leaders. The Council is expected to discuss reorganising the Soviet KGB.

Participants are expected to focus on preparing an economic community agreement. The Alma-Ata meeting of leaders of 12 sovereign states promoted understanding between them. They agreed on general principles of the economic agreement.

Participants are expected to discuss the general currency and banking systems, taxes, organising centralised customs systems, power engineering and transport.

Economic, Food Agreements

LD1110111191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1031 GMT 11 Oct 91

[By TASS special correspondents]

[Text] Moscow, 11 Oct (TASS)—Today at midday a session of the country's State Council started in the Kremlin under the chairmanship of USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Taking part in the session are the leaders of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, and the Ukraine.

The draft of the agreement on the economic association and of the foodstuffs agreement among the republics is to be discussed. The participants in the session are exchanging opinions on the order in which further work on the draft treaty on the union of sovereign states should be dealt with.

Pankin to Meet Primakov about KGB Officers

OW1010182091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1635 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Report by Mikhail Mayorov and Igor Porshnev from "Diplomatic Panorama;" transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Conversations with newsmen accredited at the USSR Foreign Ministry make it possible to conclude that the latest statements by Boris Pankin as to his vision of his establishment without KGB officers give rise to more questions than answers. At his meeting with reporters in Moscow on Wednesday [9 October] the USSR foreign minister said he is confident that intelligence officers should be guided in their work by the norms of international law. He is going to meet, B. Pankin said, with Dr. Yevgeniy Primakov, the newly-appointed head of the intelligence service, to inform him of his stand.

A KGB officer who worked for many years in different countries as a member of Soviet embassies said in a confidential conversation with DP's [Diplomatic Panorama] correspondent that he was not aware of any norms of international law that would regulate the activity of spies. He said he feared that the USSR might find itself in a joyless solitude in the world if it puts an end to the work of spies posing as diplomats.

Basing on his own experience the intelligence officer said precisely this goal was pursued in the years of stagnation by the Soviet foreign ministry with a view to monopolizing the entire, "embellished" as a rule, information on the situation in one country or another. His and his colleagues' general impression is that the foreign ministry and the intelligence service itself are currently involved in a process of reforms, including personnel changes. This period of uncertainty will have to be endured till the time when everything will be put in its proper place.

Shevardnadze Sees Chances To Keep Union

OW1010165891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The leader of the Soviet Foreign Policy Association Eduard Shevardnadze has expressed an opinion that chances still remain to keep the Union. "It's another matter how we use those chances", he added in his interview with INTERFAX.

I think, went on Shevardnadze, that the republics will see the need for keeping the Union and central government for some time to come. In his words, the centre can perform coordinating functions, help forming and developing a single economic space and economic integration. The former USSR Foreign Minister hopes that the republics will draw the conclusion that in their own interests they have to keep a single defence and strategic space too.

E. Shevardnadze stressed that with the old Union disintegrating, levers are necessary to regulate the economy in its transition to a new state. In his opinion, the economic treaty agreed at the meeting of the republics' spokesmen in Alma-Ata is the minimum of what's needed for such a "civilized transition".

Parallel to that, said E. Shevardnadze, work should go on at a political treaty which should be signed without much delay.

Yavlinskiy Appointed to Consultative Council

PM1010150191 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 10 Oct First Edition 91 p 2

[Unattributed report under "Evening Teletype" rubric: "Appointment"]

[Text] By order of the president of the USSR, Grigoriy Alekseyevich Yavlinskiy has been appointed a member of the USSR president's Political Consultative Council.

Yakovlev's Version of Background to Putsch

PM1010112491 Paris LE FIGARO in French 7 Oct 91 p 2

[Article by Aleksandr Yakovlev, member of Gorbachev's Political Consultative Council: "Moscow: The Background to the Putsch"]

[Text] To understand how the putsch developed, before analyzing the events which immediately preceded it, we must go back to those which followed the 28th CPSU Congress in summer 1990. The decisions made by the congress and its platform—"Toward a Human and Democratic Socialism"—contained progressive provisions. But the Russian Communist Party and some members of the CPSU leadership tried to sabotage them, to harden the political line, taking the offensive against the democratic forces and their leaders. The country began to move to the right.

At that time, President Gorbachev drew support more from the defense ministry officials, the KGB, and the party apparatus. It is difficult to know whether he did that under constraint or for tactical reasons. But the democratic forces began to have a hard time. At the top, the leadership—the perpetrators of the putsch, as we now know—had several trial runs, sparking off in particular the events in Vilnius in January, responsibility for which probably rests with the KGB. I think that the public ministry should continue investigations into that affair.

Then on 28 March, when there was to be a peaceful demonstration by democrats, troops were brought into Moscow for completely trumped up demagogic reasons—ridiculous allegations were made, such as democratic forces intending to occupy the Kremlin.

At the same time, the attacks on the USSR president were stepped up. The Soyuz group, which represented the interests of the military-industrial complex in the Supreme Soviet, called for his resignation. Then, during the April plenum, the Central Committee tried to oust the general secretary. In other words, the reactionary forces were reemerging and rearing their heads again. Their eyes were shining, they felt victory was at hand.

The Motives

It was only during the April plenum, I think, that the USSR president and CPSU general secretary realized that he had no support on the right. That was entirely logical, because perestroyka is a left-wing movement and plans left-wing changes. Gorbachev could not find support on the right which had different interests.

I think that it was the imminent signing of the Union treaty which forced the reactionaries to speed up the movement. Once that document had been signed, many conspirators would no longer have a place in the new structures. They thought—sincerely or not, it no longer really matters—that the elimination of the structures which they represented would no longer allow the KGB and the party apparatus to have the same influence on politics. Moreover, that is what happened immediately after the putsch. It is also what would have happened after the signing of the Union treaty, although less emphatically. Some fixed structures and traditions would have survived, but they would have had less influence.

These are the motives that, I think, prompted them to speed up events. Moreover, the putsch started on the eve of the ceremony to sign the Union treaty.

But their action was suicidal. They hoped to delay the signing of the treaty the better to bury it later and restore the empire. Although demagogic, their slogans worked on people's minds. According to several opinion polls, a section of opinion criticizes the putschists for opting for an unconstitutional course, but approves of their program. This is a thorny problem. I think that the democratic forces in power must take account of that, show themselves to be realistic, and draw the necessary conclusions.

The Dangers

The euphoria of victory cannot mask reality, we must avoid that at all costs. However, this danger now exists.

The democratic forces must shoulder their responsibility, but they lack competence, and this is not without danger. Furthermore, and this worries me, some neo-Bolshevik tendencies are emerging—attempts to settle scores, to expel people, to start over. Civil servants are moving out, others are taking over their offices. The CPSU's property is arousing unseemly agitation.

This worries me greatly. I recently read OGONEK's account of the arrest of Anatoliy Lukyanov, former chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Whatever my opinion on this subject, the law is the law and must be respected. If you break the law with regard to one individual, what is to stop you doing the same for others? As former chairman of the commission for the rehabilitation of the victims of Stalinism, I am well qualified to know that any arbitrary action starts with "trifles," with isolated cases. One "trifle" leads to another, and you gradually grow accustomed to it, arbitrariness becomes the norm and we know where that eventually leads.

The Empire

The present situation requires the democratic forces to concentrate, to unite to avoid missing the historic opportunity to truly base Russia on democratic principles.

With regard to the problem of the empire breaking up and of the new Union, I am convinced that it would be futile to try to keep the republics within the Union at any cost. They need a period of independence. When somebody loudly demands freedom, freedom of speech, he sometimes has nothing to say when he is granted that freedom.

Independence for the republics is a delicate matter, nobody yet knows what it represents. Broken down into political and economic factors, independence means that the republics must live from their work, have their own resources and finances, their own administrative systems, and so forth. If some republics are prepared for that, so much the better. But if they are not? I am afraid that things may develop in two different directions. There is playing to the gallery—a kind of obvious populism, a means of drawing attention, a way of saying "watch me struggling." But, in practice, these same republics are demanding that the center do certain things, and are refusing to shoulder their responsibilities. The republics which are declaring their independence, which want independence, should become independent provided they succeed. I think that the Baltic republics will succeed, because they still know how to work. They will, of course, experience problems, but they will solve them.

We are in the early stages. And everybody knows that no child escapes all childhood illnesses. Our democracy is in its infancy and it will have to go through childhood ailments, including independence.

Lukyanov In Hospital After Second Stroke

LD1110080991 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0430 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] One gets the impression that the investigative process [of August coup events] is being controlled by persons not disinterested in its results. This is the opinion of Lyudmila Dmitryevna, the spouse of Lukyanov, former head of the Union Supreme Soviet. Today's SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA has published an interview with her.

As is known, Anatoliy Lukyanov is now in hospital. A few days ago he had a second stroke, more severe than the first one, with a loss of consciousness. Now his eyelid is closed and his left arm and leg have again been immobilized. According to Lukyanov's spouse, the conditions in the hospital are quite decent. Meetings with him are allowed only with the agreement of the procurator.

Lukyanov refuses to give evidence to the investigation. He considers that he has been unlawfully arrested and that the accusations made against him do not correspond to reality. Lyudmila Dmitryevna Lukyanova only allows for one outcome to the affair—the clearing of the good name of her spouse.

Defense of Communists Rights' Group Meets

PM1110085791 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 8 Oct 91 p 2

[Report by N. Barvenok: "Against Tyranny and Lawlessness"]

[Text] At a meeting of the initiators of the "In Defense of Communists' Rights" social association, an executive committee of 21 people and 10 cochairmen was elected in accordance with its statutes.

The meeting appealed to everyone who sympathizes with the association's aims—campaigning for constitutional rights and freedoms for communists and like-minded persons—to provide united monetary assistance. The participants in the meeting immediately collected several hundred rubles' worth of assistance for the family of the unlawfully arrested USSR People's Deputy A. Rubiks, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, and other prisoners persecuted for their communist beliefs.

For those who want to write to the social association's executive committee, here is the postal address: Oleg Maksimovich Khlobustov (for the "In Defense of Communists' Rights" social association), subscription box 76, 105215 Moscow—E-215.

We would also like to give you the details of the account where you can pay in money for the protection of people who are persecuted for their communist convictions:

Account No. 164204 in the Moscow State Bank clearing branch, Savings Bank 7976/011-62, 40 Fedor Poletayev Street, Moscow 109378.

RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Savings Bank, routing number 201966, private account number 26877, Vladimir Ivanovich Kornilov.

The social association's executive committee can be reached on the following telephone numbers: 255-60-33 and 539-30-78.

Poll Shows Dwindling Public Trust in CPSU

PM0710091391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Oct 91 Union Edition p 9

[Report by Aleksey Levinson: "CPSU Completely Trusted by 2.3 Percent of Population"]

[Text] To what extent is the CPSU trusted? This by no means idle question has been asked by the All-Union Center for the Study of Public Opinion on Social and Economic Questions since as long ago as December 1989. At that time there was a balance in Russia between those who completely trusted the organization (23 percent) and those who completely distrusted it (24 percent). The rest were either "don't knows" or neutral. As of today—September 1991—the former group has decreased by a factor of 10 exactly: Only 2.3 percent continue to completely trust the CPSU while 65 percent refuse to. So, as they say, the people themselves are quite clear about their feelings for the "party of all the people."

It also called itself the "working class party." In fact, workers got no particular privileges from party membership and were not much burdened by it. But the "party's support"—the cadre proletariat—has given up on the CPSU relatively quickly. In December 1989 the party could count on the complete trust of just 17 percent of skilled workers, while 26 percent openly expressed their lack of trust. A year later the first group had halved and the second almost doubled—the figures were 8 percent and 48 percent. And another six months later—in July (before the putsch!)—the figures were 5 percent and 59 percent.

It was sometimes called the party of the nomenklatura. Yes, there were people for whom party membership and active participation in party affairs was a condition not only for their career but for their everyday professional activity. In late 1989 30 percent of enterprise and institution leaders expressed complete trust in the party, and not one of them yet dared talk of a complete lack of trust. But soon after even the nomenklatura began to betray the party.

In March 1990 they were nearing the balance of trust which had been visible in society as a whole four months previously. The proportion of chiefs expressing complete trust remained the same (by August 1990 it was down to 25 percent of all leaders) but the proportion of those lacking any trust at all had grown rapidly. By August this figure had already reached around 60 percent—that is, higher than for the population as a whole.

Clearly, the winter of 1990-1991 marked a breakthrough in the positions of our "captains of industry." By the spring of 1991 three times fewer—around 7 percent—still "trusted the party." The proportion of those distrusting the CPSU grew and grew, reaching 72 percent in July 1991. This is almost a record for any social or professional group. Only individual owners have recorded a higher figure—by two percentage points.

So the party is not trusted by ordinary workers or by their bosses.

What is the opinion of the so-called millions-strong army of ordinary communists?

One of the features of this social organization was that, as a collective, it had had no "line of its own" of late apart from conservatism. According to the All-Union Center's polls, "ordinary communists" have no opinion of their own apart from one close to the position of the ill-informed, socially passive sections of the population. Consequently, CPSU members' awareness is changing on the whole in the same direction as the awareness of society as a whole, but hopelessly belatedly.

It was only this summer that people who stated that they were CPSU members started to display the correlation of views on the party which society had displayed two years previously.

Judging by their responses to the All-Union Center's very varied questions, communists include people who are prepared to get more dynamically involved in society's life. They share the following feature: They are people who stated throughout 1990 and early 1991 that they had recently left or were planning to leave the CPSU.

Poll Surveys People's Attitudes To KGB, Army

OW1110092191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0800 GMT 11 Oct 91

[From the "Viewpoint" feature: "Do Soviet People Have Confidence in the Country's Armed Forces"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Are Soviet armed forces worthy of confidence?

"DATA" newsagency reports that four out of every ten people polled by the National Public Opinion Studies Centre in September said they did not wholly trust the military, while 23% expressed complete confidence.

Some 18% of those polled said they did not trust in the country's armed forces.

Some 20% were unable to give a definite answer.

The poll revealed the fact that confidence in the army is lowest in the Ukraine and highest in Russia—15% and

27% of affirmative answers respectively, compared to the nationwide average of 23%.

The poll covered 2,075 people representative of the country as a whole. Allowable error was 3%.

Most People Are Wary of the KGB

Respondents to the same poll were asked to say how much they trust the KGB.

In the opinion of 39% of the respondents, the KGB ought not to be trusted.

Some 28% do not trust it, with reservations.

Full confidence in the KGB was expressed by 8%.

No definite opinion could be given by 25%.

Greatest trust is enjoyed by the state security agency in the Central Asia—13% of those polled (compared to 8% countrywide), while it is lowest in the Ukraine where the proportion of KGB supporters is one sixth that in Central Asia and one fourth the countrywide average.

Editorial Office Corrects Chelyabinsk Coup Report

PM1110091991 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 10 Oct 91 First Edition p 3

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA Editorial Office "Apology"]

[Text] The ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA editorial office wishes to apologize to readers for a mistake in the article "Will an Armed Man Open Fire on His Own People?" published in the 12 September issue. The report that workers at the Chelyabinsk Tractor Plant took to the streets in tanks during the coup is not true. The tanks report reached the editorial office through official channels but, as is now known, during the putsch even they were not free from disinformation, and the above report is an example of that.

New Current Affairs, Arts Magazine Published

PM1110083791 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 9 Oct 91 p 1

[Report by TASS and "Own information" under general headline: "Have You Heard? Have You Read?"]

[Text] A new current affairs, literature, and arts magazine called VOSKRESENYE [SUNDAY] has appeared to succeed SOVETSKIY SOYUZ, which died a natural death several months ago.

TASS Carries Press Review for 11 October

LD1110082991 Moscow TASS in English 0757 GMT 11 Oct 91

["Press Review"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—The press gives wide coverage to the situation in the country. The Alma-Ata meeting of heads of 13 sovereign republics became another difficult stage in the search for a way to overcome a long political and economic crisis, PRAVDA writes. Gennadiy Yastrebtsov points out in his article that "chaos generates more chaos", that "inter-ethnic conflicts are raging all over the country, and a fierce struggle for power is taking place in many 'former subjects' of the USSR."

Newspapers highlight the alarming situation in the hotbeds of tension—the Chechen-Ingush republic, Nagorno-Karabakh, South Ossetia and the Dnestr region.

Primary communist party organisation and rank-and-file communists are beginning to uphold their civil rights more and more actively. PRAVDA writes in the review of the letters to the editors, that, according to the analysis of those letters, ordinary communists do not accept groundless accusations against their party, much less accusations of complicity in the coup attempt. They believe that the persecution of communists (more and more such facts are being cited), the expropriation of the party's property and the whipping up of anti-communist hysteria will not be of much use to society. On the contrary, this will result in a further deterioration of the internal political situation and acute confrontation against the background of a deepening economic crisis.

Newspapers carry reports from the mission control centre and the landing site, which deal with the ending on Thursday [10 October] of another international commercial space flight with the participation of Anatoliy Artsebarskiy, Toktar Aubakirov and Franz Viehboeck from Austria. They fulfilled a programme of joint Soviet-Austrian research and conducted experiments, worked out by the Kazakh Academy of Sciences and with its participation. It will take some time for scientists to assess the information obtained on orbit, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA writes.

Russian Minister of Economy Yevgeniy Saburov, whose signature under the Alma-Ata document was disavowed by the Russian Council of Ministers, has tendered his resignation. He said in an interview with KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA that it was just a resignation, not an ultimatum. "I believe the existing Council of Ministers is neither efficient, nor constructive. This is why I cannot work with it," he stressed.

Academician Anatoliy Logunov, rector of Moscow University, comments in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA on the discussion about the future of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, held at its conference. He urges not to divide science into numerous sections according to the nationalities principle. In his opinion, this will deal a strong blow at fundamental science and will result in a tragedy.

Analysing the work of the academy's conference, PRAVDA writes: "No matter what resolution the conference passes, it will hardly be final. Another conference is being planned, a conference of rank- and-file scientists, which will also discuss the same problems. The problem is that they may forget about science itself."

Pavel Bunich, a well-known economist, has contributed an article to TRUD dealing with the distribution of shares, which is the key element of privatisation. Bunich fears that the documents regulating this process are just beginning to be worked out, and "it is doubtful that we shall be able to begin privatisation on January 1."

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA carries an article by V. Gorodetskiy, a worker from Samara, who writes about their everyday life and the days of the unity of the Russian trade union movement, scheduled for October 21-26. He believes that the working-class movement should be a real and powerful factor. But it should be an organised, not chaotic force, and, which is even more important, it should be highly disciplined and law-abiding.

TRUD continues to publish comments of the country's trade union leaders, who express their opinion of prospects of the development of the trade union movement and their ideas of what an inter- republican trade union centre should be like and what tasks it should fulfil.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA publishes an interview with the wife of Anatoliy Lukyanov. She said that her husband had had the second ischemic crisis. This time it was more serious, with loss of consciousness. Now the eyelid has closed completely, the left arm and leg are immobile.

Deputy Head of the Moscow Metro Ezar Sandukovskiy writes in PRAVDA about problems facing this transport system. According to Sandukovskiy, 34 km of metro lines will be built in the forthcoming five years.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA carries an interview with Colonel Vitaliy Kovalevskiy, head of one of the groups of the Defence Ministry commission for eliminating the military-political authorities and working out new organising and personnel structures. He said that "our concept consists in recognising the right of an individual to a choice of world outlook, a way of life and ideological preferences. We favour not the imposing of some dogmas, but cultural orientation on the basis of broad and versatile information about the affairs in the country, the world, economy and politics, as well as education in the spirit of loyalty to the constitution, the parliament and the president."

International sections of newspapers highlight the situation in Yugoslavia and the Middle East on the eve of the peace conference.

Economic

President's Business Council Members Named

924B0015A Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 28 Sep 91 Single Edition p 2

[Unattributed article under the rubric "Official Chronicle": "A Business Council Has Been Created Under the USSR President"]

[Text] A presidential ukase outlined the goals of the council: contributing to business activity, forming a market structure of economic ties within the framework of a unified economic space, accounting for the interests of business circles, and protecting their rights.

The council includes: the council chairman **A.P. Vladislavlev**—first vice president of the USSR Scientific and Industrial Union; council deputy chairman **L.I. Vaynberg**—chairman of the board of the Association of Joint Ventures, International Associations, and Organizations of the USSR; council members: **V.F. Bashmachnikov**—president of the Association of Peasant Farms and Agricultural Cooperatives of Russia; **N.I. Bekh**—president of the KamAZ joint stock company; **N.V. Bogdanov**—vice president of the USSR Union of Small Enterprises; **K.N. Borovoy**—president and head manager of the Russian Commodity and Raw Material Exchange; **P.G. Bunich**—president of the Union of Renters and Entrepreneurs; **V.V. Vinogradov**—chairman of the council of the Moscow Banking Union; **V.D. Dashkov**—vice president of the interrepublic organization "Russian Union of Private Owners"; **S.Ye. Yegorov**—president of the Association of Russian Banks; **Yu.V. Rebrov**—vice president of the USSR Union of Renters and Entrepreneurs; **K.F. Zatulin**—co-chairman of the International Exchange Union; **V.D. Kazikayev**—deputy chairman of the council of directors of the foreign economic association Vneshekonomkooperatsiya; **I.Kh. Kivelidi**—deputy president of the Union of United Cooperatives and Other Non-state Enterprises of the USSR; **M.V. Masarskiy**—president of the Association of Leaders of Enterprises of the USSR; **Ye.M. Medvedkova**—vice president of the interrepublic association "Women and Business"; **Yu.A. Milyukov**—co-chairman of the Russian Exchange Union; **Yu.P. Pimoshenko**—first vice president of the Union of Innovative Enterprises of the USSR; **K.I. Pylov**—president of the Association of Insurance Companies; **G.Yu. Semigin**—vice president of the Congress of Russian Business Circles; **L.A. Sibeldina**—vice president of the Association of Women- Entrepreneurs of Russia; **S.V. Sorokin**—general director of the GUM trading house; **A.A. Titkin**—council member of the Association of Leaders of Enterprises of the USSR; **V.A. Tikhonov**—president of the Union of United Cooperatives and Other Non-state Enterprises of the USSR; **V.M. Fedorin**—vice president of the Union of Innovative Enterprises of the USSR; **B.B. Khabitsov**—deputy chairman of the board of the Association of Joint Ventures, International Associations, and Organizations; **N.A. Shylyatyeva**—president of the Union of Small Enterprises of the USSR; **V.V. Shchekochikhin**—president of the republic organization "Russian Union of Private Property Owners."

On 26 September USSR President M.S. Gorbachev met with eminent representatives of the country's business circles and members of the Business Council under the USSR president.

'Drastic Reduction' in Union Food Stocks

LD1010223891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1655 GMT 9 Oct 91

[By TASS observer Boris Grishchenko]

[Text] Moscow, 9 Oct (TASS)—The USSR Committee for the Operational Management of the National Economy today endorsed and submitted to the State Council a draft agreement of the sovereign states-republics on problems of food supplies for the country. This problem is at present particularly topical in light of the alarming reports on the progress of procurements of foodstuffs. For example, only about 54 million tonnes of grain has been procured so far—the lowest level for the last half-century. Rationed sales have already been imposed in 16 territories.

Those who compiled the draft believe that the drastic reduction in the all-Union stocks is an important feature in the shaping of the 1992 food market. Next year it will be kept only in order to supply the Army, penal colonies and prisons, and also residents of Moscow. All other food is supposed to be obtained locally from their own production from and supplies from one republic to another.

The draft defines customs-free movement of food within the confines of a unified economic space. Harsh sanctions in the form of fines are envisaged against republics and regions which break agreements and undersupply food to partners. They will have to make payments in freely convertible currency, and at world prices, in order for the injured parties to be able to make up their losses by purchases in the external market.

It is currently planned to allocate $10.4 billion to food purchases abroad, while according to specialists $14.7 billion is needed to maintain supplies to the population at the level of 1990 norms.

Financial, Not Food Aid Advocated by Expert

PM1010140291 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No. 38, 22-29 Sep 91 p 8

[Article by Andrey Sizov, director general of SovEcon Centre: "Our Dinner Doesn't Depend on the Harvest"]

[Text] The outlook for the harvest has continued to deteriorate. The main regions cultivating spring wheat have been hit by drought. It has also affected the production of fodder grain by causing early ripening of crops, leading to lowered yields. Harvesting has been made more difficult by the traditional shortage of spares, fuel and lubricants. Data for grain output per hectare have shown: whereas in mid-summer the yields were 17 per cent less than for the same period of last year, in August the figure was already 34 per cent. All this testifies that the gross yield of grain in 1991 will lower to 180-190 million tons, against 237 million tons last year.

The situation is even more complicated with the production of potatoes, and especially sugar. By August supplies to the trading network had shrunk by 21 per cent compared with last year. Almost certainly some people will be unable to buy sugar with their coupons.

However, the fall in production is not yet a pretext for statements on impending food catastrophe. Even if output this year will be no less than in all the EEC countries taken together. Its per capita production will exceed 600 kg (in the FRG, Italy and Britain it varies from 300 to 450 kg). There is hardly any need to mention potatoes. Their per capita production is 2-2.5 times higher than in West European countries. Moreover, we even produce roughly as much sugar out of our own raw materials.

Of course, figures are not the equivalent of food. But they do go to show that the essential factor is not the size of the crop. The gravity of the food problem today is primarily determined by the dislocation of old economic ties. First, the rash reduction in trade relations with East European countries and Cuba has dealt a blow to the supply of animal produce, vegetables, and especially sugar, to the Soviet market. Second, the Union's disintegration into independent Republics' has not been conducive to the strengthening of economic ties either, above all in the food sphere. Lastly, runaway inflation is attended by a rapid reduction in economic turnover between town and country in general and diminished sales of farm produce to the state in particular.

Unless these processes are at least arrested, we shall really be in for a hungry winter, irrespective of how much of the crop has been harvested.

Much depends on the attitude of republican leaders. It is simple to declare political independence and close the borders. But this will not solve problems, it will only aggravate them. Political leaders are duty bound to find a common language and forbid further curtailment of interrepublican economic relations.

This, however, will merely provide political conditions for blocking the food crisis. It is much more difficult to organize turnover between town and country. Rural producers do not believe in the rouble, and have lost all faith in promises to supply farm machinery and consumer goods or grain sales for hard cash.

Different ways of rendering food aid to the "Soviet Union" are being actively discussed both in the West and in this country. But food supplies from abroad cannot improve economic life inside the country.

This does not mean that aid from the West must be rejected. Urgent food deliveries from abroad may really be required for individual regions, primarily industrial ones. But it is much more important to set the country's available food resources, which are sizeable, in motion. It is here that the West's assistance can make a considerable contribution. Consumer goods, agricultural machinery, herbicides and pesticides and especially

equipment for small-scale processing enterprises and storage facilities directed to the countryside in the framework of economic assistance are capable of providing a real impetus to relations between town and country. For their part the Western firms supplying these goods must be given an opportunity to make free use of their revenue in roubles on USSR territory. If they are freed from every kind of restriction the roubles in their hands will work more efficiently.

As far as food aid is concerned there is no point in importing food products from West European countries, not to mention from across the ocean. If the need for urgent supplies of food products arises, this can be done by the following scheme: the West will pay freely convertible currency for the foodstuffs which we can get from our neighbours - from Eastern Europe. This is more convenient, more effective and quicker. The dollar can be used both to render aid to us and to assist those countries which would like to sell food for hard cash but cannot due to oversaturation of the Western markets. Moreover, this will provide an impulse for re-establishing ties with members of the former Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

Winter Fuel Quality, Supply 'Chief Worry'

OW1010154091 Moscow Central Television First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 0900 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Video report by O. Padenko; from the "TV Inform" program—program monitored in progress]

[Text] [Begin recording] [Padenko] ...This is a tough measure, and it is so because the problem is not a new one. There is an all-out deficit of practically everything—fuel, pipes, rails, and equipment for power plants and heating centers. For this reason alone, there was no hot water in city apartments for the entire summer. Boiler production has been stopped at the Northern heat and electric power plant in Vladivostok; output is falling at the Maritime hydroelectric plant; and the building of the district heating station in Ussuriysk has practically stopped. To this, we must add frequent accidents to electric power lines caused by faulty constuction technology, and the decisive actions by the Greens who preditermined the ban on developing new coal deposits and construction of a new atomic power station in the taiga area of the Maritime kray. But the chief headache for power engineers is still coal—the supply lag is estimated at almost half a million tonnes. Suppliers are overdue, and even they are only willing to barter the fuel for canned fish, lumber, and video toys.

But the winter is expected to be harsh, and one cannot buy heat in bags like they do consumer goods. Industrial executives are doing all they can to supply everyone with heat and light. [video shows various power plants, power lines, and an interview with B. Ilchuk, director of heating electrical plant No.2 of the city of Vladivostok]

[Ilchuk] The accumulation of fuel is proceeding close to schedule, the lag now is not a big one, and we hope that we will enter the beginning of winter with a sufficient store of fuel. But during the winter we must receive an additional 10,000 tonnes a day. Then we can take 4,000 or 5,000 tonnes from the reserve, and thus come through the winter. Our chief worry today is preparing the fuel supply for the winter, and the quality of the fuel.

[Padenko] The quality as well as the quantity is not expected here. This is why factories, [words indistinct], and ports are scheduled for disconnection so that everyone will get a little. There is no guarantee that apartments and related facilities will not be included in this. It is most undesirable, but winter will treat harshly those who have ignored folk wisdom and did not prepare themselves for the winter beforehand. [end recording]

Business Report Views Crisis in Oil Industry

OW1010013491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2200 GMT 9 Oct 91

[From "Soviet Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Oil production has been falling 10 to 12% per annum during recent years, reports the USSR Oil and Gas Ministry:

Year	Oil Production (mn [million] tons)
1988	620
1989	590
1990	553
1991 (forecast)	508
1992 (forecast)	450-470

The worst oil production drop hit the Tyumen region, West Siberia, this country's chief producer of oil and gas. According to Mr. Ilya Leshchints, an executive at the USSR Oil and Gas Ministry, the fall in oil production can be explained by the fact that increasingly fewer wells are being drilled. It takes to drill around 11,000 new wells annually just to keep national oil production at a stable level, but in recent years no more than 7500 new wells have been commissioned every year. [sentence as received] To add insult to injury, the average yield of a well has been plummeting from 150 tons [as received] in the early 1980s to 26 tons. AN OIL PRICE HIKE IS IN ORDER [in upper case as received]. Until quite recently nearly all produced oil and gas was sold to the state at low state-set prices—70 Rbs [rubles]./ton on the average. As a result of bargaining in 1991 between the then-premier Valentin Pavlov's cabinet and the oil industry, oil producers were allowed to sell 10% of the oil they extracted on the free market. During the nine months of 1991, the price of a ton of oil on Soviet commodity exchanges ranged from 800 to 1000 Rbs./ton.

Russia's President Boris Yeltsin signed, in September of 1991, a decree giving special status to the Tyumen region that, specifically, confirmed the right of oil and gas producers to sell 10% of the oil and gas they extracted on the free market.

Higher oil prices are a must in the USSR today, says Mr. Lev Churilov, director of the newly-established Russian Oil and Gas Corporation. Many oil producers cannot cover even the operating costs and have to be subsidized by the state as the current fixed state-set price—70 Rbs./ton, or $120 according to the official exchange rate of the USSR State Bank—is abysmally low. According to Mr. Churilov, oil prices should range between 210 and 360 Rbs./ton, depending on the rate of inflation and the package of tax benefits oilmen will receive.

If oil prices are not raised very soon, in 1992 the industry will require 48 bn.[billion] Rbs. in investments from the state budget, and annual oil output will not be far higher than 450 mn. tons, say the ministry's experts. According to Mr. Churilov, in 1991 the state invested around 20 bn. Rbs. in the industry.

Military-Industrial Civilian Goods Increase

OW1010185491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1740 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Deputy head of the State Military-Industrial Commission Anatoliy Kulakov has told IF [INTERFAX] that the share of civilian goods in the defense-sector aggregate output will increase from 54 this year to 65 in 1995, which "already today turns the military-industrial complex into an industrial-military one."

Mr. Kulakov said munitions plants had actively been looking for ways to get involved in the international division of labor. Specifically, there had been talks on conversion-related matters with officials and firms in Britain, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Canada, as well as with senior officials of the Commission of European Communities. The West, too, seems to be ready for this kind of cooperation, A. Kulakov said.

Scientific-Industrial League on Production

OW1010211091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1945 GMT 10 oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Estimates made by the USSR Scientific-Industrial League say the GDP [Gross Domestic Product] may shrink against last year's indicator by 15-17 percent by the end of 1991, and machinebuilding output by 15-20. The figures were cited in Moscow on Thursday [10 October] by the League's President Arkadiy Volskiy who called in this connection for the early conclusion of an inter-republican economic treaty. Mr. Volskiy predicted, however, that "it may be a painful process, particularly where the single banking, monetary, tax and custom systems are concerned." Other issues, he said, were already under fruitful discussion. The idea is to retain foreign policy, the power industry and cross-country means of transport, including pipelines, under central control.

Mr. Volskiy expressed concern over "growing differences within the RSFSR leadership," notably over the resignation of Economics Minister Yevgeniy Saburov. He said he could not even say "what the largest republic's tomorrow may be like."

According to A. Volskiy, the USSR State Council would open debates over the inter-republican economic treaty on Friday [11 October].

Railroad Freight Transport Declines 8 Percent

OW1110021291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2147 GMT 10 Oct 91

[From the "Soviet Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Soviet Ministry of Communications has reported an 8 percent decline in freight train transport in the first nine months of this year, (as compared ith an analysis of the same period in 1990). 2.7 billion tons [as received] of freight have been transported by train; this figure is 239 million tons less than the corresponding figure reported for 1990. The productive efforts of those working on freight travel have dropped by more than 10 percent in comparison with last year.

The Ministry of Communications also stated that the general profit of the Ministry for the past ten months is about 5.7 billion rubles, which shows a decline from last year's figures by 1.3 billion rubles. The effectivity of using mobile personnel has dropped.

Ferrous Metal Output Declines

LD1010133891 Moscow TASS in English 1121 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Vladimir Yegorov]

[Text] Moscow October 10 TASS—The output of metal in the USSR is rapidly falling. Thus, the output of ferrous metals dropped by 15 per cent as compared with last year, which was far from the best year. Because of coking coal shortages, more than ten blast furnaces are idle. Several large complexes are about to be stopped. The output of nickel dropped by 30 per cent.

This information was issued by leaders of "Soyuzmetal" trade union centre. It requested the USSR State Council to discuss the crisis situation in the industry.

The trade union centre suggested that the export of coking coal and metal scrap should temporarily be stopped to invigorate the country's economy.

Decline To Continue

OW1110013591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2147 GMT 10 Oct 91

[From the "Soviet Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The annual production of pig iron, steel and rolled metals is likely to decline in 1992 owing to falling coal supplies to the steel industry and the breakdown of ties between the republics:

	1990	1991 (forecast)	1992 (forecast)
	mn. tons	mn.tons	mn.tons
pig iron	59	44.5	43
steel	74.5	64.5	57.5
rolled metals	56	50	44

(Forecast by the USSR Metallurgy Ministry).

The thorniest problem the steel industry, which is mostly located in Russia, the Ukraine and Kazakhstan, faces is the shortage of coking coals. By preliminary calculations, in 1992 the coal industry will be able to provide around 44 mn. [million] tons of coking coals at fixed state-set prices to Soviet steel works, meeting no more than 80% of the needs of the coke industry. Another 11 mn. tons of coking coals will be sold throughout 1992 at free prices that are 10 times as high as state-set ones.

According to the association of the USSR steel works, a continued decline of coke and metal production into 1992 will inevitably trigger off a slump in engineering, chemistry and the food industry.

Given the nose-dive in the steel industry, the country will be forced to import some $10 bn. [billion] worth of metal products.

Agriculture

Late September Weather, Crop Conditions

924A0048A Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 5 Oct 91 p 2

[Report by T. Rossinskaya, agricultural meteorologist: "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] The end of September presented the residents of the European territory of the country with warmth. It was cold only during the first days of the 10-day period, when light frosts were noted in a number of rayons of the northeastern portion. Then during the second five-day period the maximum air temperature was 21-28 degrees, and conditions for harvest work and the growth and development of plants, especially in the northern half of the European portion, improved. The supply of moisture for the crops was good. Winter crops sown in August and at the beginning of September were sprouting, and those sown later were at the stages of shoots and the third leaf.

Over the majority of Moldova, in a number of rayons of the eastern, southern, and central oblasts of the Ukraine, in the east of the Northern Caucasus region, and in the Lower Volga area warm and dry weather predominated over the course of the entire 10-day period. As a result of this, the supply of moisture for winter grain crops was insufficient and, in some places, poor. In the cultivable layer of land supporting winter crops sown in a non-fallow rotation there was about 15 mm (and in places less than 10 mm) of productive moisture. Where crops were planted in rotation after a fallow period, the cultivable layer of the soil had sufficient moisture (20-25 mm) for the most part.

On the remaining territory of the Ukraine and the Northern Caucasus region the amount of moisture in the cultivable layer of the soil was satisfactory or good.

In the agricultural regions of Western Siberia and in the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan conditions for the completion of the harvest of grain crops and potatoes were favorable and light rains were not a significant hindrance to harvest efforts. Only in places in Ural, North Kazakhstan, Kokchetav, East Kazakhstan, and Kemerovo Oblasts and in Altay Kray, where the quantity of precipitation was great, did drivers have to wait out the bad weather. As for the growth and development of winter grain crops, conditions were favorable for the most part. Winter crops sown in August and at the beginning of September were sprouting; their condition was good.

Dry weather favored the maturation and opening of cotton bolls in the republics of Central Asia and in southern Kazakhstan during the first half of the 10-day period. The situation changed in the second half of the 10-day period in conjunction with a decline in the temperature and the fall of precipitation. Nonetheless, 1-2 additional bolls opened over the majority of the territory and 2-2.5 bolls in Turkmenia and northern Uzbekistan. Their total quantity is now 70-90 percent of the number that formed. That indicator is close to the annual average.

The harvest of cotton continues.

Production, Export of Soviet Cotton for 1992

OW0910035591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2210 GMT 8 Oct 91

[From the "Soviet Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to experts' evaluations, in the 1991-92 season the Soviet Union will produce 2.5 million tons of cotton fiber, as compared with 2.6 million tons produced in the 1990-91 season.

Area for Cotton Growing on the Decline

The fall in production as compared to last year is mainly connected to the decline in cotton crops. Arable land in Central Asia is more and more being used to grow crops

of fruits and vegetables, since for many years the region has exclusively oriented itself towards cotton production, and now is experiencing an acute shortage of food provisions.

At the same time, however, the cotton industry has received a perceptible stimulus for growth in cotton production and cotton sales to the government. The income from this industry, due to an increase in the buying price, has risen to 7 to 9 thousand rubles per hectare. (In comparison: Central Asian vegetable production brings in 1500-1800 rubles/hectare, rice 1200-1750 rub./hec., and grapes—2500 rub./hec.)

Less Demand for Cotton Inside the USSR

As is forecast, the demand for cotton in the soviet Union will decrease by about 5 percent, to 1.8 million tons a year.

This means that the textile industry will not be working at full capacity (output of cotton fabrics declined by 8 percent in the first half of 1991 as compared with the same period last year), and also that Central Asian republics will be reducing the amount of raw cotton exported from their territories.

Cotton Exports May Increase

Considering the circumstances, the resources to export cotton from the country are growing in the present season to more than 1 million tons. If this happens, cotton exports will have grown by 370 thousand tons compared to 1990-91 cotton export sales.

The realistic supply, however, will be significantly lower, at the level of 540 thousand tons. Opportunities for exporting cotton are hurt by disorganized relations between the republics and central export departments, poorly developed transport infrastructure, and a severe decrease in demand for Soviet cotton from importers in Eastern Europe. In particular, exports to countries in Eastern Europe will not make up even 40% of 1989-90 exports.

France and Japan may become the most important markets for Soviet cotton sales, since their significance as importers will be growing, relatively speaking.

It is expected that further deliveries will be made to South Korea, Portugal, Italy and the Peoples' Republic of China.

Imports of cotton to the USSR remain small, estimated at about 50 thousand tons.

Scientific

Future of Space Complex, Program Viewed

927Q0001A Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Oct 91 p 4

[Article by B. Konovalov, IZVESTIYA scientific commentator: "How Will We Split Up Baykonur?"]

[Text] **On 4 October the Soyuz TM-13 vehicle should dock at the orbiting complex Mir. Everything is normal in the orbit. Let us revisit the issue of the fate of our domestic space exploration which, in essence, is being decided at present.**

The launch at Baykonur proceeded according to a fine-tuned pattern, but the atmosphere was unusual nonetheless. Everybody was concerned about the future of space exploration. It was characteristic that not a single foreign correspondent from among a large contingent that came to the space launch complex asked a question at the official press conference of the State Commission, whereas Soviet correspondents pressed their attack continuously.

Is it true that the program for manned space flight is being cut back abruptly? Is it correct that we intend to sell the Mir orbital station to foreigners? Will Kazakhstan extend its jurisdiction to the Baykonur space launch complex, or will it remain an all-Union facility? Everybody repeated various versions of these and similar questions.

The sovereignty of the republics, the proclamation of independent states, and the fluctuations and uncertainty with regard to the drawing up of the Union budget will certainly affect the future of space exploration. The USSR Ministry of General Machine Building, which produces missile and space vehicles, is living through its last days in the present format. It will apparently be divided into Russian and Ukrainian corporations: The bulk of the aerospace industry is concentrated precisely in these two republics. Kazakhstan has already announced the formation of its own Space Exploration Agency. However, only Russia is in a position to continue space research on its own. The Ukraine does not have space launch complexes. Kazakhstan does not possess an aerospace industry. Other republics have invested their funds in this industry and in the construction of Baykonur, and are entitled to demand that their interests be safeguarded. Apparently, the leaders of the republics should resolve these issues.

However, the journalists succeeded in learning certain things.

Yu. Koptev, deputy minister of general machine building, stated firmly: "Space exploration has not existed to date in any country without state financing, and ours will not survive either."

Yu. Semenev, general director of the Scientific Production Association Energiya, also firmly guaranteed that the Soviet-German and Soviet-French flights, which like the Soviet-Austrian flight are operated on a commercial basis, will take place. He sees a way out in securing greater commercial independence for the space industry and perhaps in creating an international association for the subsequent operation of the Mir station. This association may receive loans in hard currency, turn them into rubles, and subsequently provide substantial aid for

the development of manned space exploration with this money. He maintains that space exploration will survive.

Ye. Yezhikov-Babakhanov, first deputy prime minister of Kazakhstan, confirmed that all enterprises of the republic, including those located in the compound of the Baykonur space launch complex, should come under the management of the Kazakh SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] government. At the same time he was forced to acknowledge that Kazakhstan is not in a position to operate the Baykonur space launch complex on its own.

Colonel General V. Ivanov, chief of the Space Units [as published] of the USSR Ministry of Defense, stated firmly that all Baykonur launch complexes will remain under military jurisdiction.

Everybody evaded questions concerning the amount of funds already invested in Baykonur. Yezhikov-Babakhanov said that it has been neither one, nor two, nor three billion. Of course, the numbers are much greater. One launch pad for launching Proton rockets costs about 1 billion rubles [R]. And they have four of them here. The launch complexes for Energiya rockets are much more sophisticated and expensive. One runway for the landing of the Buran vehicle costs a "pretty penny," going into billions. If Kazakhstan privatizes all of this we could hardly call it a wise step. At the same time, it is clear that Kazakhstan should receive some share of funds by virtue of operation of the giant site, at least in order to improve the social and housing situation at the space launch complex.

The complex was shrouded in secrecy for a long time. We journalists could not even drop a hint that the space launch complex was operated by military specialists. There were censors at the local teletype, as well as at the other end in Moscow. Even the history of Baykonur itself still remains hazy to this day.

Academician V. Barmin, chief of the Launch Complex Design Bureau, told me that when the issue of a site for launching intercontinental missiles arose, three possible sites were discussed. The first was in the area of Makhachkala, with used stages falling into the Caspian Sea; the second was in Mordovia, where the cutting of large forested areas was proposed; the third site was in Kazakhstan. The third site, which was the worst from the point of view of climatic conditions, was opted for. This is a semidesert, with icy winters and scorching heat in summer, but the area is sparsely populated.

The very name Baykonur also came along out of secrecy considerations. The location of the launch had to be indicated in order to officially register Gagarin's flight. The station of Tyura-Tam, next to which the present city of Leninsk with 100,000 inhabitants was located, was considered a great secret. So, somebody pointed his finger at the map and indicated the settlement of Baykonur, which is situated about 400 kilometers from here in a straight line. This is how this settlement became famous, although it has nothing to do with space—except that this is approximately where the used stages of rockets fall. It seems that the city of space explorers was initially called "Tashkent-50," and later Zvezdograd, and subsequently Leninsk. In the process, the censors alternately allowed and prohibited us from mentioning it. Syrdarya, which flows through here and at one time was deep, was named an abstract river. This is why many people believe justifiably that the name of Baykonur, under which the city is known to the entire planet, should be officially given to it. This will help the city to transform itself gradually.

For now, it bears the imprint of nondescript military settlements with their primitive architecture. But the city wants to be worthy of its worldwide fame. The situation is beginning to change. In August, the first group of American tourists visited; a branch of the West German company Burda-Moden will open soon. There are parties willing to build a modern hotel complex here. The city has many needs. Opening up and eliminating unnecessary secrecy may help it, as well as our space exploration in general.

At the postlaunch conference with Austrian Chancellor F. Vranitzky and Kazakh SSR President N. Nazarbayev at Baykonur, confidence was expressed that space launches from the land of Kazakhstan would continue. Replying to a direct question from IZVESTIYA, President N. Nazarbayev stressed that Kazakhstan does not intend to assume responsibility for the command and control of the Strategic Rocket Forces on its territory. It is just that, unlike the Ukraine, Kazakhstan believes that the redeployment of nuclear missiles to Russia will cost too much. It is precisely due to this that the republic does not intend to proclaim itself a nuclear-free zone. The president noted that he has always adhered to the policy of preserving the Union of Soviet Republics, and does not intend to change his position.

Military

Defense Ministry Consultations Discussed

Shaposhnikov, Republic Envoys

LD1010223991 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 2005 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Discussion with USSR Defense Minister Yevgeniy Ivanovich Shaposhnikov; B.B. Baratov, deputy chairman of the Tajikistan armed forces committee; L.P. Privalov, deputy chairman of the Belarus armed forces for issues of national security and defense; and V.R. Niyazmatov, chairman of the Uzbekistan armed forces committee on defense issues, by unidentified correspondent, date and place not given; all occupants identified from screen captions; from the "Topical Report" program—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Yevgeniy Ivanovich, the first question is for you since this is the second meeting of defense officials, and at the second meeting, on the whole, the number of representatives has fallen. There

are no representatives from the Baltic as sovereign powers now. Nevertheless, it is the second meeting. Could you at least speak briefly about its results?

[Shaposhnikov] Well, in the first place I will answer your first question about the Baltics. We recognize the Baltic Republics as absolutely independent sovereign states, and for them, in my opinion, this is a stage which is behind them. At the present time we, with them, are resolving issues on stationing a temporary contingent of Soviet troops on the territory of the Baltic Republics. Therefore, the USSR president has appointed as leaders of an intergovernmental delegation comrades Yakovlev, Shevardnadze, and Sobchak, who will resolve these issues. Therefore this means that we will consider that yesterday we worked on internal affairs.

On the whole I want to say that the absolute majority of republican representatives who participated in our meeting yesterday are in favor of a single armed forces. At the present time there cannot be another approach, since now we are on the eve of signing an economic union—a political union is also probably on the horizon—and in these conditions it is of course impossible to think otherwise, that the armed forces should somehow be divided into national sections, and so on—moreover, since at the present time we are guided by documents from the Fifth Congress of People's Deputies, which clearly and precisely emphasized this situation.

[Niyazmatov] I think that we—you introduced independence there—our republic also received independence recently. We, in our republic, are looking at the future soberly, and therefore we unambiguously spoke in favor of the unity of the armed forces. Another matter is the fact that there are certain separate factors, but we will work them through.

[Correspondent] To what degree are these factors secondary?

[Shaposhnikov] Some republics put the issues like this: Fine, we will be united, but let this part of the armed forces or weaponry remain on our territory, but only under our jurisdiction. This is something else; that is no longer a single armed forces. I like very much the position of Uzbekistan, which does not put the issue like that.

[Correspondent] Which republics then put the issue differently? Probably the Ukraine, since we have touched on this.

[Shaposhnikov] Well, to some degree the Ukraine puts the issue like this—to some degree—and from a different point of view—with more independence—Moldova, Georgia, and in particular Azerbaijan puts the issue like this: Give us weapons. Well, I think that as there have been no political decisions yet, I think that there is no point in talking about this topic yet.

[Niyazmatov] Speaking about the armed forces, I want to stress once again that Uzbekistan speaks in specific terms and is concerned with the unity of the armed forces. In the near future a committee of our Supreme Soviet, according to a plan of work... [changes thought] We are not trying to manipulate today's situation artificially.

According to a plan of work on the role of local soviets in the republic, let's take two areas specifically: the provision of housing, apartments for officers of the Soviet Army, how work is found for the wives of officers, and how kindergartens and children are accommodated. In my opinion this is clear evidence that Uzbekistan is showing attention to and concern about the Soviet Army. It sees the soldiers of the Soviet Army as its friends and defenders, and you know today, for example, that the last fall call- up again convincingly showed that we fulfilled military special units by 100.5 percent. There you have convincing proof that the 20-million strong Uzbekistan fights not in words but in deeds for the unity of the armed forces.

[Correspondent] You do not intend to change your strategy?

[Niyazmatov] My strategy? Why should I spoil what is good?

[Correspondent] And Belorussia? How is it living just now?

[Privalov] Well, in the first place I will begin this way: Adding to some of the words spoken here by Valor, I will say, I will repeat the words of my speech yesterday. The time of ambitions and emotions has long since passed, and common sense must be present for a long time already. That is the first thing. Second, it is positive that we are gathering in this composition for the second time already in a brief space of time; this is very important for the discussion of a serious issue. This I will say, I will not comment on it here in detail, but it is understandable to all. Third, the situation that has arisen in the USSR on the political plane gives every reason for talking about a radical change of the whole system of military organization and defense. If, for example, republics leave the USSR, after the example of the Baltics, then Russia—I do not avoid this word here—is the main successor to the power of the Soviet Union. That's it. And the third [as heard] condition coming from the current analysis of the situation is when every republic is trying to create its own territorial military structures. From this we draw our conclusions.

But what do I want to say in this regard? We adopted the declaration last year, the Republic of Belorussia on sovereignty; the 10th article says that we have the right to create our own armed forces. But comrades, understand me correctly, I am talking to all the viewers, and eveyone will understand me, as a military man, correctly, that in order to resolve this issue a transition period is nevertheless necessary. And to talk today about us having a republican national guard immediately, that we will immediately, overnight, create our own armed forces—the economy must nevertheless be taken into account.

Yesterday I touched on this very attentively when I said that in our republic the revenue norm or sum is 20 billion rubles [R], expenditure is 25 billion. There is already a deficit of R5 billion, then how can we...

[Correspondent, interrupting] And then additional organization.

[Privalov] And here there is additional organization of the armed forces. I say, here maybe I will put it simply, you must not today count only the money in your own pocket, you must count state money as well.

[Niyazmatov] There are differing interpretations. In our republic, for instance, the question of a national guard has been raised. This is a reasonable idea. In accordance with the presidential decree it is planned to create a body of some 600-700 men. Its objective and purpose have been clearly outlined. These are to defend the republic's sovereignty and interests. Other responsibilities would be to defend the honor and dignity of our president and other questions related to a national guard. But the main...

[Correspondent, interrupting] But won't there be differing views and stumbling blocks which may lead to conflict?

[Niyazmatov] What do you have in mind, for example?

[Correspondent] Conflict between the national guard and the USSR Armed Forces stationed in your republic.

[Barotov] I would like to add that, at a time when we are recognizing the sovereignty of every state, the establishment of a national guard by the state is a symbol of statehood. Under no circumstances should it be suggested that this is a counterweight to the existing Army. And yesterday many delegations even suggested to Yevgeniy Ivanovich that these national formations or national guards should be part of the Ministry of Defense in some way, that they should be part of its strength.

[Shaposhnikov] Yes, the question was even raised...

[Correspondent, interrupting] That they might be funded...

[Shaposhnikov, interrupting] ...funded out of the common budget. Well, we are now working on these questions because there are differing views on this to some extent.

[Privalov] The following picture emerges. We can discuss the creation of a republican guard and our own army, and so on. The question of an army is referred to in our declaration on the republican guard. But this must be confirmed in law. This is very important. In our republic, for example, enlistment of recruits for the national guard is already taking place in an unofficial way—and I use the word unofficial advisedly. This is the national guard organized by esteemed Viktor Petrovich Tolmachev. But it is an unofficial development. It has not been endorsed in law, you know. We cannot do things this way.

[Correspondent] Things are already going too far in the republic.

[Privalov] Yes.

[Shaposhnikov] I think that until the republic's Supreme Soviet adopts a package of laws, a package of documents, on the national guard, they should not talk too loudly about it.

[Privalov] No, they should not. And there is another question that I consider to be very important under the current circumstances. This is the call-up of our young people in the Republic of Belorussia to the ranks of the USSR Armed Forces. A specific quota should be set. Right now I wil not suggest...

[Correspondent, interrupting] How many recruits the republic should provide for the united Soviet Army.

[Privalov] Yes. And how many to keep at home in the republic and how many to assign to the armed forces outside the republic.

[Correspondent] These problems are quite capable of resolution, are they not? They should be resolved on the basis of the principle...

[Shaposhnikov, interrupting] I have given instructions to all USSR deputy ministers of defense, who I am sending to the various republics. Next week, literally, they will start the specific work mentioned by Comrade Privalov. In other words, they will each visit different republics and determine these quotas, on which practical work is already being done.

[Barotov] We support extra-territorial recruitment for the Armed Forces. But we also believe that draftees from our republic should do their service on the territory of our republic, in the first instance. We also feel that they should be considered for assignment to prestige units, when recruitment for the Armed Forces is conducted. The comrades have just been speaking about the quota which all republics get.

[Correspondent] In the past Ukrianians, Belorussians, and Russians were recruited into specific units or branches of the forces. Why hide the fact?

[Barotov] Recruits from Central Asia mainly found themselves assigned to construction forces. This should certainly be mentioned today. If the construction forces were still within the system of the Ministry of Defense, this might be a second question—the role of the Ministry's system in carrying out construction work for the branches of the national economy in various regions. Therefore...

[Correspondent, interrupting] Here the quota should be based on common sense and equity.

[Barotov] There must be reasonable equal rights.

[Correspondent] Tell me, all are naturally concerned about whether or not you are talking about our strategic forces, about the by no means peaceful atom. Are there any moments of distrust here? And how in future will it be organized?

[Shaposhnikov] You know, I want to say that the comrades participating in this meeting are so responsible in their approach to this question that they do not even raise this question. They do not raise it and they recognize that it is only the center, and in general there is no need to even approach this question.

[Niyazmatov] The unity of the Armed Forces is proposed, and all this terrible weaponry, even that which is not nuclear, must be in one pair of hands, and there must be one code, and not 20 codes so that every republic could input. One code. You understand, I hope, this word which one man can input when it will be necessary, if life forces us to use them.

[Correspondent] Fine. Now the second meeting has ended. Can you tell us if there will be a third one in the near future, or what the date of the next one is?

[Shaposhnikov] What do I want to say? That we have agreed not only now to just simply meet, but to create a consultative council of defense ministers of the USSR. We could meet once a month, not necessarily in Moscow, but in other republics, in the capitals of the union republics, and there decide the most vital, outstanding issues which concern all, that is budget matters, conscription matters, for example the accomodation of troops withdrawn from the countries of Eastern Europe, and on the whole social security, also the bullying in the Army which the comrade from Uzbekistan have talked about here. Therefore I think that the time has come for this. I promised the comrades that I would draw up a document and introduce it for examination at the State Council. I think the State Council will support us.

Republic Envoys on Issues

PM1110144791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[V. Litovkin report: "Defense Ministry Holds Consultations. Republics Adopt Decisions"]

[Text] The latest round of the interrepublic consultation [konsultatsionnaya] meeting of representatives of the sovereign republics was held at the USSR Ministry of Defense 8 October. It continued the exchange of opinions on urgent problems of elaborating the new military reform concept and transforming the Armed Forces. Representatives of the Ukraine and the Baltic republics did not attend the meeting.

The majority of the republics, namely the representatives of Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Central Asia, supported the idea of unified Armed Forces. The Armenian representative also advocated a constructive approach to the creation of the new reformed Army and of unified centralized management of the country's nuclear and strategic forces, but he pointed out that there is no need to accelerate this process today, while there is no clear idea of what the future Union will be like or what states will join it.

The Georgian delegation did not participate in the debate on general questions. The representatives of Moldova and Azerbaijan took a special stand at the consultation meeting. As Azerbaijan Defense Minister Valeg Barshatly told a correspondent for the ASSA-IRADA agency, no draftee from the republic must serve outside Azerbaijan. The Azerbaijan delegation also raised the question of the status of all the armed formations stationed on the republic's territory. In the opinion of the republic defense minister, these formations must obey the president of Azerbaijan.

The minister said that helicopters are continuing to fly from Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh with weapons and ammunition for Armenian gunmen. He emphasized: "Air defense is not subordinate to us. And it is evidently advantageous to someone at the center to have Armenian gunmen armed to the teeth."

Meanwhile, according to a RIA report, the Azerbaijan People's Front has given notification of the fact that Soviet Army subunits have urgently begun withdrawing their military hardware from the republic's territory. In reply to this the People's Front in Azerbaijan's Akstafinskiy Rayon has blockaded the railroad to prevent the removal of this hardware.

USSR People's Deputy Colonel Valeriy Ochirov, a participant in the consultation meeting at the Ministry of Defense, said in conversation with IZVESTIYA's correspondent:

"Two main approaches to the creation of the new Armed Forces are becoming clear. The first is for a unified Army and Navy. This idea is supported by Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Central Asia. The second is a military-political alliance, which could include the Transcaucasian republics, Moldova, and, maybe, the Baltic republics with their armed forces for the purpose of common defense."

The Ukrainian delegation arrived for a meeting with the USSR defense minister 9 October.

Further on Manilov Brifing

PM1110115091 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Oct 91 p 1

[TASS report on 9 October briefing at USSR Defense Ministry: "The Army Should Be One"]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Oct—The Baltic Council decision to seek the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia by 1 December this year is "unrealistic and an ultimatum, and therefore does not fit into the framework of humane, civilized relations between

states." That was the answer given by Lieutenant General Valeriy Manilov, chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Information Directorate, at a briefing on 9 October for Soviet and foreign journalists, to a question from a TASS correspondent on the Defense Ministry's reaction to the statement by the leadership of the Baltic states. "If this decision is implemented it will have the most deplorable adverse effect on the lives of many thousands of people. Naturally we cannot agree with this approach," Gen. Manilov stressed.

The briefing was devoted to the results of the regular interrepublic consultative meeting of representatives of sovereign republics on questions of the preparation and implementation of radical military reform, held at the USSR Defense Ministry Tuesday. Representatives of all the republics, except the Ukraine and the Baltic states, took part in the meeting.

As Valeriy Manilov stressed, the absence of a Ukrainian representative was due to technical factors. Ukrainian Defense Minister Major General of Aviation Konstantin Morozov arrived in Moscow today for consultations with USSR Defense Minister Marshal of Aviation Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov.

The vast majority of participants in the meeting, Gen. Manilov noted, were united on the main point—their recognition of the need to preserve a single defense space and single Armed Forces. Commitment to these principles was confirmed by representatives of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic], Belorussia, Kazakhstan, and the Central Asian republics.

It is very important to stress, V. Manilov noted, that the line of jointly tackling all questions of a military nature with the participation of representatives of the republics will be continued. The meeting approved the idea of creating a permanent consultative council, attached to the USSR defense minister, of ministers or chairmen of committees of defense of the republics. This idea was duly formulated and after examination by the USSR State Council will apparently acquire specific organizational forms. In V. Manilov's opinion the creation of such an organ is a matter of a few weeks.

The spirit and atmosphere of the meeting confirmed the participants' clearly expressed intention constructively to tackle the problems that exist and jointly to seek ways of unraveling the "knots" that exist on questions of collective defense, the chief of the information directorate noted. As for the question of how relations with the Baltic states will be structured in the military sphere, he noted that here it is necessary to proceed on the basis of recognition of the fact of the independence of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. By all appearances, preference will be given to the conclusion of interstate treaties corresponding to the norms of international law, humanitarian principles, and the peoples' interests. We are hardly likely to be able to embark on the large-scale withdrawal of troops from the territories of the Baltic republics earlier than 1994, Lt. Gen. Manilov concluded.

Baltic Affairs

USSR Defense Official on Withdrawal by 1994

LD1110062691 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0530 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] The majority of republics support the idea of the preservation of a single defense zone and unified armed forces, Lieutenant General Valeriy Manilov, head of the USSR Ministry of Defense Information Directorate, told journalists. Representatives of Russia, Kazakhstan, Belorussia, and the republics of Central Asia have come out in favor of this.

Regarding the recent demands by Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia for the fastest possible withdrawal of Soviet troops, Lt. Gen. Manilov said that they had not given rise to positive emotions in the Ministry of Defense. Soviet military leaders believe such a withdrawal cannot be initiated before the end of 1994. This timeframe is determined by the need to construct housing for the restationed units.

Further on 1994 Timetable

PM1010093291 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[V. Litovkin report: "The Baltic: Troops Will Leave, but for Prepared Positions"]

[Text] After the Baltic Council session, Lithuanian Republic Supreme Soviet Deputy Chairman Stankevicius stated at a news conference in Vilnius that all three Baltic states adhere to a common and unequivocal position: The presence of the Soviet Army in these countries is totally illegal.

He stressed that the presence of Soviet Armed Forces in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia is "incompatible with these countries' independence." And all three countries, Stankevicius said, are inclined to demand that Soviet troops be withdrawn from Vilnius, Riga, and Tallinn by 1 December this year, as the presence of a foreign army in the capitals of sovereign states "is impossible and threatening."

Commenting on these remarks, Lieutenant General Mironov, commander of the Baltic Military District, stated: "This radical approach could create another seat of confrontation. I do not think this decision can be implemented. The question of the schedule for the withdrawal of Soviet Army units must be decided at intergovernmental level."

N. Lashkevich, our correspondent in Vilnius, reports that the command of one of the troop units stationed in Lithuania has sent a letter to the Defense Ministry saying that "an order for our withdrawal, disbandment [rasformirovaniye], or reorganization without provision for social guarantees will be considered criminal. This gives us the moral right not to fulfill it."

At the USSR Defense Ministry IZVESTIYA's correspondent was told that the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the Batlic region will certainly take place, but in a civilized, appropriate form, with respect for human rights being paramount. The schedule for the withdrawal will be determined when the necessary material and technical conditions have been created. As of today the situation is such that they could be withdrawn no earlier than 1994, when the withdrawal of troops from Germany and Poland is completed.

Estonia

Savisaar Accuses Toome of Unethical Comments

OW1010212491 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1950 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Estonia's Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar has tabled a complaint with the ethics commission of the republic's Supreme Council in which he accuses the chairman of the parliament's international affairs committee, Mr. Indrek Toome, of unethical personal comments, reports the "PAEVALEHT" newspaper in its Ocober 10 issue.

Mr. Savisaar feels his personal dignity has been offended by Mr. Toome's comments carried by "PAEVALEHT" on October 8, in which Mr. Savisaar's explanations about the setting up of the Bureau of Investigations were described as "puerile".

In a speech before the ethics commission on October 9, Mr. Toome said in particular: "The word 'puerile' was the mildest term I could think of to describe Mr. Savisaar's explanations. My point of view remains unchanged".

The ethics commission of the Estonian parliament will continue discussions of this issue next week.

Official Cited on Border Revision Issues

PM0910092591 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Oct 91 First Edition p 2

[Report by T. Burlakova on interview with Estonian press attache Leyvi Sher; place and date not given: "The World Is Changing, So the Map of the World Is Changing Too"]

[Text] Less than a month had passed since the Estonian Republic's proclamation of independence when the news appeared in a number of media that Estonia was making certain territorial claims on Russia, which were seen as a dangerous precedent in the current unfavorable, explosive situation in the country. We asked the Estonian Republic Supreme Soviet Presidium for an explanation. Here is what press attache Leyvi Sher told us.

"An Estonian Republic Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution has invalidated a number of Estonian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees from 1945, 1947, and 1956 concerning the alteration of Estonia's borders. Why? In the first place, the changing of borders is the prerogative of the Supreme Soviet, not of its Presidium, and, second, when these matters were being decided only three or four of the nine members were present, so there was no quorum. Thus the decrees that have now been abolished were adopted in breach of the legislation that existed at the time and are juridically invalid.

"Let us make a historical excursion. On 2 February 1920 a peace treaty was signed in Tartu between the Estonian Republic and Russia (the so-called Tartu Peace), which also defined the borders between the two states. No one has ever repudiated this treaty and it is registered at the United Nations as existing to this day. The Estonian Republic, as an entity in international law, has been recognized by other states within the borders laid down by the Tartu Treaty. There is some discrepancy at the moment between the republic's juridical status and its actual position, because Estonia's current borders differ from the borders recognized by the Tartu Treaty, both in the north (with the current Leningrad Oblast) and in the south (with the current Pskov Oblast).

"But the problem of the settlement of territorial questions concerns not only land borders. The problem of defining the border in expanses of water also has to be resolved. In accordance with international law the sea border has to lie at a distance of 3-12 miles from the shore. If we were to draw a line 12 miles out from the Estonian coast it would run into two islands which were once transferred by Finland to the Soviet Union and which now belong to the Russian Federation. Hitherto the border has lain in such a way that Estonia has not had its own shelf zone. In what way should the border be drawn now?

"There is an agreement between Finland and the USSR on delimiting the territorial waters of the Gulf of Finland. Obviously, with the Estonian Republic's return to the international arena, we will have to address this question again as well.

"So we are talking about tackling a whole range of border-related questions. And the issue is much wider and more multifaceted than the need to agree on where to draw the border. A number of questions connected with borders and customs arrangements, protection of borders, and so on have to be solved.

"It should be stressed that Estonia is not going to take any unilateral action and intends to tackle all these complex problems solely by means of talks between the interested parties.

"There is yet another important aspect to the problem. The point is that the Setu ethnic group formerly lived on territory that passed to what is now the Pskov Oblast. Many Setu moved to Estonian territory and a considerable number were deported. These people have the right to return to the land of their fathers, so it is necessary to define their status and specify their property rights.

"The area in the northeast, beyond the Narva River, going toward St. Petersburg, was once populated by Ingermanlandian Finns. The non-Russian toponyms that exist there to this day are of Ingermanlandian origin. The Ingermanlandian Finns suffered the same fate as the Crimean Tatars, Volga Germans, and Caucasus mountaineers: They were deported, every one of them. Historical justice must be restored and the Ingermanlandians allowed to return home. There were once 150,000 of them; now there are 11,000 Ingermanlandian Finns living in Leningrad Oblast and 18,000 in Estonia. It is hard to say how many there are scattered about the USSR—in fact there was a time when this nationality was deemed nonexistent and one found written in identity cards: Russian.

"In conclusion it should be stressed that the actual statement of the border question must not be seen as evidence of antagonistic contradictions between states. It is just that the world is changing, so the map of the world is changing too. A sovereign state has been restored, and the next step is to straighten out its relations with adjoining countries."

Incidentally, this is exactly the way the Estonian and Russian governments view the problem. The minutes of the talks on intergovernmental relations between the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] and Estonian Republic say: The sides instruct the relevant departments to examine the question of determining the land and water borders between the RSFSR and the Estonian Republic, the procedure for the utilization of the territorial waters and economic zone of the Baltic Sea, and other border questions and to prepare draft agreements on them before the end of 1991.

May the work on the solution of these problems make it possible to view the issue not as a dangerous precedent, but as an illustration of the fact that even the most complex and most painful and delicate problems can and must be tackled not from a position of threats, accusations, and bloodshed, but in a civilized way, taking into account mutual interests and a respectful attitude toward one another.

Republic Not To Accept Foreign Refugees

LD1010191791 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1800 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] The Republic of Estonia is not prepared to accept refugees from other countries. This was demonstrated today when a group of over 60 Romanian citizens applied for visas at the Republic of Finland Embassy in Tallinn. Representatives of the Republic of Finland, however, refused to provide entry visas to the Romanians. According to information from the Estonian police [word indistinct] the group attempted to cross the

Republic of Finland border at Vyburg, but [words indistinct]. The Romanians themselves said this afternoon that they have no intention of returning to their homeland because of the intolerable situation which has developed. Attention has been drawn to the fact that the whole group consists of men aged about 30, with a few women and two children included.

The Estonian authorities find themselves in a tricky situation which may have serious international consequences. Andres Kollist, director general of the Republic of Estonia Immigration Department, said that the key problem is our open eastern border. Anyone can enter without any checks, and it cannot be ruled out that there will be other (?similar situations) in the future, too. The Yugoslav civil war, for example [words indistinct].

Defense Forces Draft Plans Announced

PM1110090191 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Oct 91 First Edition p 1

[Report by Captain Second Rank V. Gromak: "New Army: Coercion Measures Not Ruled Out"]

[Text] Tallinn—The newspaper MOLODEZH ESTONII has published a report entitled "First Mobilization of Draftees Will Take Place As Early As This Fall."

Toomas Puura, chief of the state office's defense and border protection department, has reported that apparently as early as next week, the government will examine the question of the formation of a defense forces general staff. And as early as this fall the first mobilization of Estonian Republic draftees will be announced.

"We will need very urgently a certain number of young men for military service, primarily border service," Puura announced. "It goes without saying that an independent state will not ask boys whether or not they want to serve, as happened with the draft to alternative service. When necessary certain coercion measures will be used."

So far it is unclear where the draftees will be housed. One possibility, in Puura's opinion, is the occupation of the Soviet Union's vacated military bases. For instance, it would be possible to house 600 men in Nursi, where airborne forces are preparing to leave the base.

The creation of defense forces, he believes, largely depends on how the selection of command personnel and other specialists proceeds. "A considerable number of Soviet officers serving in our republic have expressed the wish to remain and assist us. Obviously some choice will be made from them," Puura stated.

Agreement on Turnover of KGB Data

OW1010123391 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1100 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Estonian Prime-Minister Edgar Savisaar has informed BALTFAX that at his Wednesday meeting with the chief of the Soviet KGB Vadim Bakatin in Moscow they agreed that the Estonian side will be given documents related to the Estonian KGB as well as KGB informers in Estonia. The Soviet side put forward the one condition: that the Estonian government guarantee the secrecy of these data as well as the security and involability of persons mentioned in the documents.

Savisaar also said that the Soviet KGB pledged to provide with jobs or pensions all KGB officers leaving Estonia. In is turn Estonia promised to guarantee the social and political rights of former KGB officers remaining in the republic.

Diplomatic Relations Restored With Japan

OW1010162991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1400 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Muneo Suzuki visiting Tallinn and the head of the Estonian parliament Arnold Ruutel have signed a protocol on the restoration of diplomatic relations between Japan and Estonia. The ceremony took place on October 9.

Mr. Suzuki suggested that Japan's interests in Estonia should be temporarily represented by the Japanese ambassador to Finland. The Estonian side agreed with this.

The Japanese Deputy foreign Minister and the Estonian parliament's leader discussed cooperation in politics, the economy and culture. Great attention was paid to the question of the Soviet army withdrawal from Estonia and the possibility of Japanese financial aid to facilitate the resettlement of Soviet military and KGB forces from Estonia.

Estonian Bank Law Published

WA1110132691

For this law published in the April 1991 BIZNES I BANKI, see the FBIS Report Soviet Union: Republic Affairs, FBIS-USR-91-033, dated 24 September 1991, pp 1-8.

Latvia

Shaposhnikov, Official Discuss Withdrawal

LD1010140191 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1300 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] USSR Defense Minister Shaposhnikov and Latvian Permanent Representative in Moscow Peters have met in Moscow.

Our correspondent reports from Riga that an accord was reached to the effect that the Baltic Military District

Headquarters will be withdrawn from the town early next year. The military also will vacate the former buildings of the German Embassy in Latvia, and of the Latvian Society in the near future.

Official Views Economic Agreement With Russia

LD1110094491 Riga Radio Riga International in Latvian 0530 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] The Russian Federation is delaying conclusion of an agreement on economic cooperation. The economic cooperation agreement with Russia could be signed, at best, within the next two weeks, Ilmars Cirksis, deputy minister of Material Resources of the Republic of Latvia, has reported. He has just returned from Moscow, where there was a meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Economics and the Committee for Material Supplies of the Russian Federation.

As the deputy minister of Material Resources has reported, conclusion of an agreement is made more difficult by the circumstance that the Russian side still is not fully informed about the quantities which it will need, and also how much it will be able to produce itself in 1992. Also the procedure of settling of accounts is not clear. Russia offers four scenarios, with the dollar equal to 1.8, 4.5, 6, and 55 rubles. The Latvian side must now calculate for each of the possible scenarios, and must determine the corresponding volumes of commodities for exchange. It must, however, be taken into account that it is unrealistic to demand too high a price for the goods produced in the republic. For example, if the RAF minibus can be sold abroad for $5,000, then a higher price is not, of course, realistic. And the fact that Russia at present is selling the raw materials places it in a more privileged situation.

Ilmars Cirksis emphasizes that it is possible that Latvia will have to review the necessary quantities of commodities and raw materials, corresponding to the prices and quantities set by Russia. At the same time it must be recognized that the agreement with Russia will be the biggest and the most essential of the agreements which the Republic of Latvia will have concluded after the restoration of state independence.

Mutual Economic Treaty Signed With Georgia

LD1010165591 Riga Radio Riga in English 2130 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Today Latvia and the Republic of Georgia signed a mutual economic treaty continuing Latvia's forging of new bilateral trade agreements with individual Soviet republics. According to the agreement, in 1992 Georgia will provide Latvia with both ferrous and nonferrous metals, agricultural machinery, fruit, and mineral water. The treaty was signed by the Georgian minister of material resources, who heads a delegation comprising of representatives of the Georgian Ministries of Industry, Trade, and Agriculture.

Supreme Council Discusses Citizenship Bill

LD1110101491 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1630 GMT 10 Oct 91

[From the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] The Latvian Supreme Council has begun to examine the issue of citizenship. A package of documents has been proposed in accordance with which citizenship automatically returns to anyone who was a Latvian citizen before 1940 and also their direct descendants, regardless of where they live. The other inhabitants of Latvia may become citizens if they speak Latvian and affirm allegiance to the republic. A residence qualification is also being examined.

An appeal to the Supreme Council adopted earlier at a meeting of Russian democrats has been disseminated in parliament. We are not Russians in Latvia but Russians of Latvia, the participants in the meeting stated.

The Latvian Committee of Citizens, considering that the republic Supreme Council's policy on citizen issues contradicts the interests of the Latvian people, has officially announced a campaign of civil disobedience, insisting on the repatriation of at least half a million non-Latvians.

At the same time the administration of the Central Committee of the Latvian Labor Party has called for nonparticipation in any extremely politicized actions of civil disobedience or any other measures which in their opinion would be against the constructive policy of the Latvian Supreme Council.

Further on Discussion

LD1010083591 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1830 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Today the Latvian Supreme Council began to examine the question of citizenship. First of all the plenary sitting listened to the first document from the package of proposals by Juris Bojars, which, by the way, had been directed to the plenary sitting by the People's Front of Latvia faction. These are draft resolutions by which the 1919 law of the Republic of Latvia on citizenship was adapted to the determination by the existing totality of the citizens of the Republic of Latvia.

Deputy Janis Lagzdins, however, addressed the session on the procedure by which citizenship of the Republic of Latvia is to be restored to those who were deprived of it by the 1940 act of occupation, and, at the same time, how the granting of citizenship to those who in the future will lay claim to citizenship of the Republic of Latvia will take place.

It must be said that Janis Lagzdins' proposal was supported by the majority of deputies. At least, this is how it appeared when listening to the debate.

It is true that this proposal gives a greater clarity to the question of citizenship as a whole. It outlines not only the regulations of restoring citizenship to those who were deprived of citizenship by the 1940 act of occupation, but also the future scheme of granting citizenship. And, moreover, it is a compromise on the resolution adopted by the People's Front of Latvia, because Lagzdins' version offers to decide the granting of citizenship question in three possible ways. For instance, first, by either holding a referendum of citizens on this, or by a veto poll of all the inhabitants of the Republic of Latvia who are entitled to vote, and third, by tackling this question concretely, as is planned for in the law of Janis Lagzdins, if it is adopted.

However, the debate did not end today. Many more deputies wish to express their standpoint tomorrow. We shall wait for tomorrow's plenary sitting to adopt some resolution.

Recognizes Croatian Independence

LD1010190891 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 0900 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] The Supreme Council of the Republic of Latvia today recognized the independence of the Republic of Croatia. It was done in recognition of Croatia's (?indomitable) resolution and just struggle for its independence.

Lithuania

Vagnorius Addresses Key Economic Issues

LD1010142591

[Editorial Report] Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian at 0815 GMT on 9 October broadcasts a 3-hour live relay from the Lithuanian Supreme Council meeting in Vilnius where deputies are discussing economic issues.

The relay begins with Prime Minister Gedimanas Vagnorius taking the floor to make a report on the current situation in the economy and the forthcoming decisions which are to be adopted in the nearest future. He begins his report with a brief description of the current situation. He says: "I would like to stress this point that at present the complete collapse of the economy is not coming from Lithuania but from the Soviet Union, that is, from the country the currency of which we are still using." He goes on to give a detailed account of the raging inflation within the Soviet monetary system and the budget deficit being covered by means of printing more money. He continues: "If the Soviet Union does not stop printing money and if we do not introduce our own currency, then it is not too difficult to imagine that some months later a banknote as such would play no role at all."

Vagnorius points out that Lithuania is not yet independent economically "which also means that Lithuania is not independent politically either, despite our loud declarations and elaborate phrases about it. If we do not become independent economically we will never become a state as such."

"Our situation is not typical," Vagnorius continues, "and therefore it requires solutions that are not run-of-the-mill."

Vagnorius expresses the view that for the government to linger on, waiting for the complete collapse of the Soviet economy and then to use it as an convenient excuse for releasing prices would be perilous. He says that "the orientation of our production structures should be changed in the nearest future. Now is the most convienient time to do that because, having changed the production programs, a huge amount of money could be earned." He says that if this is done later, profits will not be so high. "I believe that if we release the prices in November, before our neighbors do the same, we will have a period during which our enterprises will be able to earn money if they wish to do that and if the enterprises start looking for ways how to adapt to the market." "Therefore," Vagnorius goes on, "despite this chaos, despite the fact that we have to use the Soviet currency, we have planned that after introducing certain elements of our own in the monetary system, to start releasing the prices in November."

The prime minister says that "it would be wrong to think that the reform is starting now. On the contrary, from now on the reform is nearing its end because now essentially only the last elements will be implemented which are connected with the release of the prices, that is, those practical steps which are very unpopular" but steps which have to taken from the point of view of the mechanism of the economy.

Vagnorius then goes on to explain to the deputies and to the radio listeners what the release of prices means and what difficulties it implies.

Continuing his remarks to the Supreme Council Vagnorius turns to the subject of market prices. He says such prices can exist only when there is competition between manufacturers. He also speaks about the currently exisitng monopolies, such as transportation, communications, and the food processing industry. Vagnorius says that for example the marketing of milk products has no competitors in Vilnius and therefore market prices cannot be applied in selling these products under conditions of a free market.

The prime minister goes on to says that "until competition has been set up in specific branches of production, prices will have to be controlled and then gradually we will move to free market prices completely." He says that all the laws that are necessary for the functioning of a market economy have been adopted. He goes on to explain what an antimonopoly law and the law on bankruptcy means.

"To understand where we stand in the economic process currently taking place in Lithuania and the Soviet Union," Vagnorius says, "I would like to give a brief comparison of the processes of economic reform that are taking place in Lithuania and the Soviet Union. I would like to tell you, for example, that the economic reform as such is not taking place in the Soviet Union at all because there are no laws that define property relations, commercial relations, and relations of subjects working under free market conditions. What is a free market? A free market is when an enterprise is functioning freely and when its activity as well as property relations in various forms are regulated by corresponding laws. There will not be a free market until these laws that guarantee all of this are adopted."

Vagnorius then says that specific laws are needed during the transition period from a state owned and controlled economy to a market economy to avoid uncontrolled avalanche-type process. He says that "our neighbors do not have such laws. We do." Vagnorius says that these laws will keep the process under control and will help to avoid social conflicts that could lead to a change of the government and other complications. "I think that we will avoid this in Lithuania; we must avoid this because the very transition and the new mechanism is clearly and sufficiently regulated." He goes on: "This is not restricting rights and freedoms, this is a civilized economy and a civilized transition to a new type of economy."

Vagnorius says that the government has been reproached for having no specific five-day or two-week program for economic reform. He says that "any program is merely a declaration; I understand that Estonia or Russia or some other republic needs such programs where there are no specific laws. Why do we need a program like this? To repeat what has already been written in the law, the more so that these laws have almost been implemented. I agree that a program on the reconstruction of the economy, on the development of exports, on energy saving, and so on is indispensible." He says that some programs of this type have already been prepared.

"We think that before going over to free market prices an increase in wages and compensations and pensions should be made at the beginning of November," Vagnorius says, adding "Workers at the profit-seeking enterprises should have a 30-35 percent increase in their wages. Salaries paid from the budget will be increased by 40percent."

"If I remember correctly," Vagorius says, "an average pension will be 120 rubles [R],a student's grant R70, and so on." He says that the release of prices will follow after the increased wages and pensions have been paid to the people. This will take place in November this year. Not all of the prices will be released immediately, he says. Some will remain under the government's control and will be released gradually by the end of this year.

Vagnorius then speaks about the complex situation concerning the introduction of Lithuania's currency. Settling accounts with the Soviet Union will be affected significantly, he says, because "there will be no one over there with whom we can discuss the prices for settling the accounts" because the exchange rate will not be on a one for one basis. "I think that during the first quarter of next year our main task will be to stabilize the economic processes. I think that beginning with the second quarter of next year we could introduce our own currency. Maybe this will happen earlier, maybe we will have to introduce our own currency at the beginning of next year but it will depend to a great extent not only on what will be going here in our country but also on what developments will be taking place around us." He says that much depends on the inflation rate in the Soviet Union and the emission of money not backed up by goods.

Vagnorius goes on: "If by the end of this year the Soviet currency system collapses altogether, then no doubt we will be compelled to, without taking account of the circumstances or whether it was a good idea or not, we will have to introduce our own currency."

Speaking of taxes Vagnorius says the goverment does not intend to change any tax structures, on the contrary, it will reduce the tax on profits. Any additional revenue obtained by the governemt will be spent on compensation to people so the increase in prices does harm them excessively. The government is not interested in accumulating money from additional revenue, but during the transitional period some enterprises will have to be supported to prevent their bankrupcy.

After the conclusion of Vagnorius's speech, various questions by the deputies follow. They concern the privatization of apartments, the supply of machinery to agriculture, and so on.

Joining in the discussion about agricultural production, Vagnorius says: "In 50 years agricultural land has been exhausted to such an extent that, in my opinion, for at least the next ten years Lithuania will not be able to claim its place among the states that export agricultural products. Of course, we will export—to the Soviet Union, we will sell meat and milk, but not to the West."

He goes on: "We could be an important exporter of flax products and so on, of products that demand a great deal of manual labor. We can compete in the West, too, with such products." Vagnorius says that exports of meat will continue to the Soviet Union until it supplies Lithuania with grain.

Replying to deputies questions, Vagnorius speaks of the need to create favorable conditions for foreign investment. He says: "Next year the volume of trade with the Soviet Union should constitute about 60 percent and not more than 70 percent of the total export production, and about 30 percent of export production will go to the West and the Northwest. This will mean independence. And if within the next few years we can achieve that we are not dependent on a single state, we will be economically

independent. And this will happen when we have normal trade relations, not only with the Soviet Union but also with Western and Eastern European states. But this will happen only when we have a normal infrastructure, both legal and social infrastructure."

After an interval in the proceedings questions continue. They concern the minimum wages, and wage increases.

Landsbergis Confirms Stance on Army Withdrawal

OW1010163091 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1400 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The head of the Lithuanian Parliament Vytautas Landsbergis has said that the problem of the Soviet army withdraal was high on the agenda of this visit to Britain.

Landsbergis told a news conference on October 10 that in a statement for the press the British Prime Minister John Major voiced his support.

Thc head of the Lithuanian parliament said that the withdrawal of the Soviet Army was not "a whim of the Lithuanian leadership, but a position of the republican parliament and all people of Lithuania". He recalled that last year 1 million 600 thousand people put their signatures to an appeal requesting the Soviet Army's pullout.

Vaisvila Assesses Army Pullout

LD1010035491 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 0000 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] We will make efforts for the Soviet Army to be withdrawn from Lithuania as soon as possible, yet in reality this will be difficult to carry out. This was said to Radio Vilnius by Vice Premier Zigmas Vaisvila.

As a member of the Lithuanian Government, Zigmas Vaisvila is concerned with the method of the Soviet Army withdrawal. He is the one who negotiates with Soviet officials most often. I strongly doubt that the main part of the Army will be pulled out by the end of the year, said Zigmas Vaisvila, for simple reasons. First, the Soviet Defense Ministry is trying to carry out essentially the same old policy. Though they declare good intentions they have little wish to withdraw the Army. The second reason is that both sides have to get ready for the pullout. What is meant here is the social problems of the military, property issues, our readiness to take over some functions of the Soviet military regiments, for example guarding of prisons. The first step, however, has already been made. Draft agreements of the Lithuanian and Soviet Ministries of the Interior on the withdrawal of the interior troops on the territory of Lithuania was worked out last week. The final day of the withdrawal of these troops is 1st March next year. At present the draft is being discussed in Moscow and should be approved of by the Lithuanian and Soviet Governments in the nearest future.

In the opinion of Zigmas Vaisvila, 1st March is quite a possible term, though it may be shortened. As is known, interior troops are not part of the Soviet Army and come under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of the Interior. Four regiments of these troops are stationed in Vilnius, Kaunas, Siauliai, and Snieckus. It is estimated that they may have up to 10,000 persons. Besides the Soviet Army and interior troops, regiments of the border guards and railway troops are stationed in Lithuania. As we have reported already, the Soviet Army stationed in Lithuania amounts to 80,000 persons. Other kinds of military regiments are considered to include about 20,000, so that the total number of the Army stationed in Lithuania numbers up to 100,000.

The Lithuanian Government has unofficial data that some Army regiments have started to be pulled out from Lithuania. No official statement, however, has yet been received from the Defense Ministry of the Soviet Union. No official agreement with the Soviets on the terms of their withdrawal has been signed either. The only concrete agreement signed concerns the handing over of the military commissariat which is to be finished by 16th October. Verbal agreements with the defense minister, Shaposhnikov, have been reached on handing over objects of civil defense and military forest areas, yet according to the vice premier, Zigmas Vaisvila, the Defense Ministry is now trying to avoid this topic. Even more, it has been recently been taking one-sided decisions which are straining the situation. For instance, Lithuanian officials received a cipher telegram which was sent to the military in Lithuania from the general headquarters in Moscow and the Baltic Military District headquarters in Riga which ordered the property and documents on the objects of civil defense and military commissariats to be urgently taken away. The Lithuanian Government has claims to this property as well, so it expressed a protest on this issue to the military leader of the Baltic District, Mironov. The latter was forced to recognize the illegal nature of these actions. After an investigation by a military commission revealed cases of theft, this property is being returned.

In the opinion of Zigmas Vaisvila, among the Soviet military leadership and maybe among the leadership of the Soviet Union there are serious disagreements on the issue of the Army in the Baltic countries. For example, commenting on the agreement on the withdrawal of the Army from the territory of Estonia signed by Estonian Prime Minister Savisaar and USSR Defense Minister Shaposhnikov last Friday, Vice Premier Zigmas Vaisvila it might have appeared that the minister was not authorized by the president to sign such a document. [sentence as heard] Similarly, said the Radio Vilnius interviewee, it happened some time earlier that Shaposhnikov signed an agreement with the Estonians on the handing over of the objects of civil defense. According to the data of the Lithuanian Government, President Gorbachev was displeased by this step and warned the defense minister. All this shows that the nut will be hard to crack, said Zigmas Vaisvila.

As is known, until now military leaders have been officially mentioning a period of five to seven years in which the Army will be pulled out from the Baltic countries. The withdrawal, according to them, could start no sooner than in 1994 when the Soviet Army has been completely pulled out from Germany. These plans are totally unacceptable to Lithuania, said Zigmas Vaisvila. In his opinion it will be very good if no Army remained in Lithuania in two years. Meanwhile, it is quite possible to withdraw urgently the interior troops and first of all the [words indistinct] brigade stationed in Snieckus, the Vilnius Patrol Regiment, the [words indistinct] regiment which guards prisons. Lithuanian institutions would need more time to take over this function of the interior troops. I doubt whether we will be able to get ready for this by the new year, said Zigmas Vaisvila.

What concerns the Soviet Army, which comes under the jurisdiction of the Defense Ministry, the Lithuanian Government demands first those regiments to be withdrawn that took part in the attempted overthrows of January and August. These are two airborne divisions, each of about 10,000 persons, and the motorized infantry regiment stationed in Vilnius. It is estimated to number 5,000-7,000 persons. Because of catastrophical pollution of nature, four aviation regiments stationed in the city of Siauliai in northern Lithuania, as well as the Kaunas helicopter base stationed in the very center of the city, are demanded to be urgently disbanded.

In general four main kinds of the Soviet Army are stationed in Lithuania: airborne, land, anti-aircraft defense, and aviation regiments. It is not yet exactly known whether there are nuclear weapons in Lithuania. The defense minister of the Soviet Union, Shaposhnikov, and the commander of the anti-aircraft defense army, Ivanov, stated officially that it was no longer in Lithuania. Yet according to the Lithuanian vice premier, Zigmas Vaisvila, assurance in this may be provided only after all military objects have been inspected. By the way, last week after resolute demands from the government, Lithuanian officials were allowed to visit the first military object, a regiment stationed near Kaunas which engages in radio counterintelligence. This regiment was earlier under the jurisdiction of the Soviet KGB and now it belongs to a special communications committee of President Gorbachev.

The future pace of this conflict will be negotiated this week.

Spokesman on Joint Declaration With Poland

LD0810110391 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Russian 1300 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Statement by Audrius Azubalis, press spokesman for the Lithuanian Supreme Council—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] At last agreement has been reached concerning the interstate declaration between Poland and Lithuania. It must be said that the negotiations were rather difficult. However, as Mr. Ciuplinskas pointed out, the letter from Supreme Council Chairman Vytautas Landsbergis to Polish President Lech Walesa helped a great deal in conducting the neotiations. The letter contained much good will and probably this served as a supporting point that shifted the negotiations between Lithuania and Poland to the right direction. Now talk is heard about the arrival of Polish Foreign Minister Skubiszewski in Lithuania to sign this political declaration together with his counterpart Algirdas Saudargas. It must be said that the rather categorical demands that had been presented earlier by the Polish side—as you remember this delegation was in Vilnius a couple of weeks ago—these demands had not been included in the text of the declaration. We must say that this is our achievement. [passage omitted]

Strained Relations Noted

PM0910153791 Vilnius EKHO LITVY in Russian 26 Sep 91 p 1

[ELTA report: "Political Discussion Held"]

[Text] Political discussion took place in the plenary sessions hall 25 September in accordance with the work program of the fourth session of the Supreme Council.

Foreign Minister Algirdas Saudargas delivered a report on Lithuanian foreign policy. He described the steps being taken to return Lithuania to Europe and the world community.

Supreme Council Chairman Vytautas Landsbergis then gave people the benefit of his thoughts. After describing the basic tasks of Lithuanian foreign policy, he noted that Lithuania must above all join organizations such as the Interparliamentary Union and UNESCO. Regarding international relations, Landsbergis noted that Lithuania is committed to the principle of bilateral relations with the Soviet Union, seeking not to enter into any collective treaties or collective unions wishing to preserve the old Union. Therefore, the speaker said, we are seeking to develop relations with indvidual republics or with the Union as a united whole. Landsbergis spoke about the prospects for relations with Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Armenia, the Ukraine, and Belarus and emphasized rapprochement with the Latvian and Estonian states.

Dwelling on relations with Lithuania's southern neighbor—Poland—Landsbergis noted that an artificial problem that CPSU supporters in the Soviet Union have linked with the problem of the Poles in Eastern Lithuania has intruded into the good relations between our two states. After the unsuccessful attempts to isolate eastern Lithuania from Lithuania they are now trying to sow discord by claiming that the authorities have launched attacks on national minorities. The speaker recalled the distorted interpretation of this issue in the Polish press and the fact that certain forces in the neighboring country are trying to suspend our future

relations. Therefore, Vytautas Landsbergis said in conclusion, everything concerning this dirty game must be better explained to people, particularly those living in eastern Lithuania.

Deputies Justas Paleckis, Antanas Racas, Ceslovas Jursenas, and Vytautas Pleckaitis then took part in the discussion.

The political dicussion will be continued next Wednesday.

Supreme Council Approves New Ministers

OW1010212691 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1950 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On October 10 the parliament of Lithuania approved the appointment of former director general of the Department of Home Defense Mr. Audrius Butkevicius to head the Ministry of Home Defense which supercedes the department.

Mr. Vitianis Aleshkaitis was appointed to the post of Minister of Foreign Economic Relations.

The republic's parliament did not give its approval to the appointment of Mr. Aleksandras Abishala, minister without portfolio, as Minister of Communications and Informatics. Most of the deputies wanted to hear a report of acting Minister of Communications, Mr. Kostas Birulis, who is currently on a business trip to Switzerland.

Envoy Addresses UN General Assembly

LD1010163791 Moscow TASS in English 0828 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondent Mikhail Kochetkov]

[Text] United Nations October 10 TASS —Lithuania is waiting impatiently for advice and aid from the United Nations and its specialised agencies, Lithuanian Permanent Representative Anicetas Simutis told the 46th U.N. General Assembly session on Wednesday. On Tuesday, Simutis presented his credentials to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Simutis, who began his diplomatic career in 1931, noted that "other east European countries' experience proves that the transition to a market economy is impossible without support and active assistance from developed countries." He noted that Lithuania does not quarrel with its neighbours and it wants only to live in peace with everybody.

Simutis said the Lithuanian government calls for complete Soviet troop pullout from Lithuanian territory. He said their presence in the republic is "absolutely illegal", as it is not based on any treaty or agreement.

Vagnorius Receives Irish Foreign Minister

LD1010083691 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2230 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Lithuanian Prime Minister Gedimanas Vagnorius met today with the Irish foreign minister, Gerard Collins. During their conversation the ministers exchanged their views on the cooperation between Lithuania and Ireland. It was noted that both countries are similar in their size, and in that they both have no natural resources. The Irish minister pointed out that his country could share its experience of the development of a small country with Lithuania. He also stressed that Ireland was taking resolute steps in the European Economic Community which would enable Lithuania to become an associate member of this organization as soon as possible, and would receive concrete support in the nearest future.

Gerard Collins handed over to Gedimanas Vagnorius the invitation of the prime minister of Ireland to come on an official visit to Ireland.

The Irish foreign minister was also received today by the vice chairman of the Supreme Council, Kazimieras Motieka.

The Irish minister presented the ambassador to Poland, Richard O'Brian, who was also appointed ambassador to Lithuania.

Poll Reveals Citizenship Preferences

OW1010224791 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1950 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The sociological laboratory of the Vilnius University has conducted a poll of non-Lithuanian (Russian and Polish) residents of Lithuania about the issue of citizenship.

Some 55 percent of Russians and 52 percent of Poles have made up their minds to become Lithuanian citizens, while 35 percent of Russians and 39 percent of Poles are as yet undecided and 9 percent of Russians and 7 percent of Poles say they will not acquire the republic's citizenship.

Some 42 percent of the Russians and 67 percent of the Poles who are reluctant to receive Lithuanian citizenship have chosen to stay on in the republic, 15 percent and 7 percent have decided to leave, and 43 percent and 26 percent have not so far come to a decision.

Supreme Soviet

Rutskoy on Inability To Reach Yeltsin

LD1010125591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1116 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By parliamentary correspondents Tamara Zamyatina and Gennadiy Talalyev]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Oct (TASS)—Neither Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy nor acting Chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet Ruslan Khasbulatov had constant telephone contacts with RSFSR President Boris Yetsin during his vacation in Sochi. Aleksandr Rutskoy reported this today at a joint session of the chambers of the Russian parliament. Replying to a question put by a deputy as to who is preventing constant communication with the president of Russia, Aleksandr Ruskoy said that he will ask Boris Yeltsin himself about this. He added that "he had tried to get through to the president about 12 times throughout the period. If anybody picked up the phone, perplexity was heard in the reply: "You did not ring, did you?" The vice president also cited Ruslan Khasbulatov. "He feels too shy to say it, but even he was not able to get in contact with Boris Yeltsin either."

Session Discusses Chechen-Ingush Situation

Approves Resolution 12 Oct

LD1010130291 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1200 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Text] At a joint session of its chambers, the parliament of Russia today approved a resolution concerning the situation in Chechen-Ingushetia. The president and government of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] are requested to take immediate steps to restore law and order in this republic. The Supreme Soviet has set up a group of people's deputies to travel to Groznyy immediately.

A report was delivered at the session by Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy. He reported, in particular, that he tried to get in touch with Boris Yeltsin on Wednesday to discuss the matter. According to Rutskoy, he made 12 unsuccessful attempts to contact Yeltsin recently.

During the debates on the issue, RSFSR People's Deputy Vladimir Isakov expressed amazement that the Supreme Soviet is being burdened with such a complex decision, as the president of Russia has powers to declare a state of emergency and impose direct presidential rule. Meanwhile, Deputy Andronov described Isakov's speech as another attempt to block action by the Russian parliament.

KGB Chief's Suggestion Rejected

OW1010190091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1740 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The chief of the Russian Federation's KGB Viktor Ivanenko has urged the republic's Supreme Soviet to reconsider its resolutions on the situation in the Chechen-Ingush republic. He told parliament that any kind of outside interference might only aggravate local difficulties.

Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, however, interpreted Mr. Ivanenko's speech as an attempt to question his (Rutskoy's) conclusions and suggestions concerning Checheno-Ingushetia. Although Russia's Procurator-General Stepankov actually supported Ivanenko's proposal, the Supreme Soviet decided not to reopen debates over the already adopted resolution that invites President Yeltsin to "take urgent measures to restore law and order in Checheno-Ingushetia."

Rutskoy Asks for Powers

LD1010163291 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] The Russian vice president, Aleksandr Rutskoy, has asked the Russian parliament to give him powers to restore law and order in the Chechen-Ingush republic.

He was speaking at a joint session of the two houses. His demand was prompted by the developments of the past few days when several government institutions were captured and officials arrested in the Caucasian Chechen-Ingush republic within Russia.

After a debate, parliament passed a resolution naming steps to stabilize the situation in the republic. It decided to send a group of MPs [Member of Parliament] there to control developments and the implementation of parliamentary resolutions.

Rutskoy Reviews Events, Decision

LD1110023691 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1730 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Interview with RSFSR Vice President Aleksandr Vladimirovich Rutskoy by unidentified correspondent in Moscow on 10 October—recorded]

[Text] [Rutskoy] All that is now occurring directly in Chechen-Ingush is no chance thing, this situation has intensified and been created over the past three months, as far as the North Caucasus as a whole is concerned. To my sorrow I expected the situation that has arisen in Chechen-Ingush to develop as it has. However, since we have chosen the democratic form of a law-governed state, everything was undertaken by parliament, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, the chairman of the

Supreme Soviet, and myself personally. That is to say, we did everything that we could.

You know, the situation developed this way: On 24 August it was to some extent by forcible methods—the reason I say forcible methods is because Kutsenko, chairman of the town soviet, died during the event and it was claimed that he jumped out of the window, but you know I do not know of anyone ever jumping through glass. I think, therefore, that the investigations will find out something more in this regard. That is, analyzing this situation and beginning directly with 24 August, the fact that the people of Chechen-Ingush decided to retire the Supreme Soviet is perhaps justified in some way, because Zavgayev's policies were not in accord with the demands indeed of democracy and democratic reforms. I would say that the method itself of retiring the Supreme Soviet was not gentlemanly and not democratic. In this regard I believe that the blame should be put on Zavgayev. He should have resigned in good time, and then this conflict in the republic would not have arisen.

If we look further at how events developed, six commissions of people's deputies went there. A representative of the Russian Federation president, State Secretary Burbulis, went there. Ruslan Imranovich Khasbulatov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, went there. It appeared that the situation would stabilize. All these groups in turn had meetings with and worked with Dzhakhar Musayevich Dudayev and worked with the Higher Provisional Council of the Chechen-Ingush republic which was elected by the retiring Supreme Soviet for the single purpose of preparing new elections and the elections of people's deputies and the Supreme Soviet.

The situation developed that way. What then happened? On the evening of 5 October the Chechen-Ingush television and radio building was seized, in the fullest sense of the word. That is to say, guards were posted by a group that now calls itself the executive committee, but I do not know who elected this executive committee, although it cites the people. However, the attitude of the people is quite different. So the group headed by Dzhakhar Musayevich Dudayev and calling itself the executive committee seized the television and radio. What followed, according to a statement by the deputies and the deputies' commission there, was that he gave his word that there would be no repeat of this action and that it had simply been necessary in this situation to hold democratic elections.

You know, we even agreed on this. But when on the 5 October the Ministry of Internal Affairs and KGB were stormed and Lieutenant Colonel Kayupov was wounded, I would like you to excuse me, but these actions can be classified as criminal actions under Paragraphs 218, 64, 68, and 67. Frankly speaking, when I found out on the 5th that Lt. Col. Kayupov had been wounded and that 12 assault rifles, two boxes of cartridges, and 10 grenades were stolen from the KGB, then, I, as vice president, carrying out at present the duties of the president, was forced to immediately fly there.

The work that had been carried out was in compliance with all democratic norms. I met with Dudayev and had a frank conversation with him not as a vice president but just as, so to speak....

[Correspondent, interrupting] Man to man.

[Rustskoy, continuing] ...man to man. I appealed to him and I thought that I had managed to convince him because he gave me his word of honor that there would be no more actions that would discredit the executive committee. Nothing else would be stormed and everything would be all right.

I met with and convened the provisional supreme soviet of the republic. They carried out the reelection of the chairman, defined that they would prepare the preelection campaign for the 17 November elections. I invited and met with the Bekov, prime minister of the Chechen-Ingush republic. I met with the Congress of the Ingush People—a congress of the Ingush people was taking place at this moment—and if you watched television you would have seen that the congress gave a standing ovation after my speech. Why? Because I clearly defined the positions and the views of the leadership of Russia on the problem that is evolving in the republic.

I managed to speak with the intelligensia of the republic and, you know, I came to the conclusion that a mass protest against the actions of Dudayev was evolving. Well, naturally, a certain group supports him. The slogan under which he is acting is to a certain extent democratic but the actions, the actions are criminal. And when he said that nothing else of the kind would take place, the same night he... [changes thought] But, so to speak, first a statement was made that day.

When I returned from there I spoke at the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and it adopted a decision on the political situation in the Chechen-Ingush republic. A summary of the visits undertaken by the commission was given and a political assessment was made. In the decision the following paragraphs were adopted: That is, henceforth, until the new composition of the Supreme Soviet of the Chechen-Ingush republic is elected, the provisional supreme council is to be considered the only legal body of state power on the territory of the Chechen-Ingush republic and is to be composed of the composition of the previous supreme soviet. Is there any violence in this decision? You see for yourself that there is none here. Further on it says that unlawful armed formations are required to surrender weapons to the republican bodies of internal affairs by midnight on 10 October 1991, that it has been proposed that the provisional supreme council of the Chechen-Ingush republic under the chairmanship of Bakhmadov undertake all the necessary measures to stabilize the situation in the Chechen-Ingush republic and that it unfailingly ensures law and

order and carries out the elections to the Supreme Soviet of the Chechen-Ingush republic on the basis of the existing legislation.

Where is there violence here? There is none here. So, after this decision had been made by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, Dudayev spoke on the air. He tore this decision to pieces saying that this is violence and interference in internal affairs.

You can see that there was absolutely no interference here. A recommendation was simply made to the effect that one must not do such things as storm the Ministry of Internal Affairs or KGB, which were not acting against Dudayev or against holding democratic elections. Thus these actions were unjustified. So taking things further, the decision was countered by Dudayev's statement in the media in which he announced that people of 15 years of age and older were being called up into a national guard. Other actions followed. There was the attempt to release criminals from Groznyy prison. The prisoners broke down the doors and jumped into the prison yard. This whole group made an attempted break. The guards took steps. They issued warnings. But there was no reaction to the warnings. So they had to open fire. One of the imprisoned criminals was wounded. Another died. Nevertheless, 30 managed to escape. Thirty managed to escape.

[Correspondent] So they are still at large?

[Rutskoy] Yes, they are at large now. And at the same time, the opportunity to impose order in the prison is being obstructed. Other actions followed. The site of a Ministry of Internal Affairs battalion was seized. You know, I can understand everything, but if someone has given his word of honor that the executive committee is not going to take any more unlawful measures, he must honor his promise. I know the customs of the people of the Caucasus. A man who gives his word in the Caucasus is true to his word. What Dudayev is doing at the moment is simply difficult to assess, you know. So I was forced today to make a second statement—at the Supreme Soviet this time. I reported on the situation in a somewhat broader format because I am in possession of a full analysis of the situation. I now have opportunities to convey this to the public at large. I expect to do this in the near future. I think that this should be known by the public at large: the public must take measures over such actions. And I can tell you that if today, speaking at the Supreme Soviet, I was supported by the majority—a total of 174 out of 177 people's deputies in the Supreme Soviet voted for this decision and for my proposals—then that is something to reflect on. A full majority supported my statement and the measures I proposed.

The measures are as follows: The Supreme Soviet has picked the people's deputies who are going to fly out soon. Stepankov, the Russian Federation's procurator general, has flown out. This is because Dudayev also attempted, in revenge for the fact that the republican procurator issued a perfectly proper statement and assessment of Dudayev's actions... the arrest of the republican procurator followed: Aleksandr Vasilyevich Pushkin it was. And then he was dismissed from his duties.

Now this commission has flown out there with only one purpose. The purpose is to convene the Supreme Soviet, that is, the republic's provisional supreme soviet elected by the disbanded Supreme Soviet, to call the republic's Council of Ministers and naturally the Dudayev-headed executive committee as well to hold a joint session. The aim of the session is to determine in a clear and distinct fashion future actions with a view to stabilizing the situation. I have sent a letter with that commission, even though it was difficult for me to go against my principles doing it. Nevertheless, I have written that letter to Dudayev. Moreover I wrote it in the presence of the USSR procurator general and RSFSR people's deputies. In the letter I made a promise on my own part and on behalf of the RSFSR president. Furthermore I took the responsibility and made the promise on behalf of the USSR president too. I promised that if Dudayev, the executive committee, its members as well as the National Guard, surrender their weapons to their own republic's interior directorate—not even to the Interior Ministry—they will have a full guarantee that none of them will be arrested and that they will be given the right to take part in the political elections.

Everything that could be done I, as the vice president, have done in concert with Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, the RSFSR president, who is now on vacation, and with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. Incidentally the reaction by Mikhail Sergeyevich was very good regarding to this. And you will agree with me, I think, that the step taken was the ultimate possible. Nothing else could be done, as you may understand. We have done everything: Decisions have been passed by both the Presidium and the Supreme Soviet. The latest decision by the RSFSR Supreme Soviet is this: Having heard the report by Vice President Rutskoy on the situation in the Chechen-Ingush republic the Supreme Soviet deems it necessary to understand the report by Comrade Rutskoy, the vice president, on the situation that has arisen in the Chechen-Ingush republic. Secondly, to propose that the RSFSR vice president and the RSFSR Council of Ministers ensure necessary conditions for restoring law and order in the Chechen-Ingush republic.

The Supreme Soviet has given me the full right to declare a state of emergency and to take measures in accordance with the Constitution. Nevertheless, I have now asked the Supreme Soviet to try political dialogue once more and to try to convince people that what has been happening in the Chechen-Ingush republic is dangerous not only for the republic itself but also for the whole of the Caucasian people. Why? Because the wave will immediately start rolling across the whole of the Caucasus or to be more exact across the whole of the North Caucasus.

In addition to what I have just said, what is going on now is an attempt to create two separate, opposing camps of

the Ingush and of the Chechens. Well, pardon me, but where is the person who allowed them to divide the nation and drive a wedge between the peoples. Moreover I am also concerned about the future of the Russian-speaking population. After all, as many as 300,000 Russians live there.

And so, you know, I am worried about the fate of my fellow citizens, of those fellow citizens who are relying on the president and the vice president to take constructive political actions. But if the appropriate and proper reaction does not materialize, then in accordance with the resolution of the Supreme Soviet I will have to, I will be compelled to fulfill the necessary conditions to restore legality and law and order. How that is done, you know. But I am even against bringing in armed forces. I consider that they will fulfill it and if not, if there is no consensus between the provisional supreme council and the Council of Ministers and Dudayev, then the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Chechen-Ingush republic will be forced to take appropriate action.

And I must tell you, I have just received a report from the deputy internal affairs minister of the republic, and the Interior Ministry of the republic is ready, is ready to take measures in accordance with the Constitution. Because, I am sorry, but we simply cannot have some political clique taking such an attitude to the people. And the most terrible aspect of this situation is that additional armed detachments are emerging which are ready to act against Dudayev. In other words, from the local population, especially in the villages. How this could end, I think you can imagine. So the aim and the task today is to stabilize the situation in Chechen-Ingush immediately and not allow this conflict to develop throughout the northern Caucasus.

I have spoken today and I think the people will support me in this. The people expect from the Russian Government and president concrete action—concrete action to stabilize the situation, stabilize the economy, bring order. And I consider that in this situation the people must give their support. Because all I have just said—I really do not know what to do to stop the developing conflict, but I do know that the Supreme Soviet, the Supreme Soviet has given permission, and I don't doubt my capabilities and I know I will carry out that decision.

We now have to move from political confrontation and from political barbarism and do something specific to raise our economy. Because again, if the economy is in such a state and the political situation in the country remains as it is, we will have a great social explosion. So I consider the actions justified, what we have done, and I appeal over the radio to the Chechen-Ingush people, to the people of northern Caucasus, to the people of the Caucasus, to deonstrate good sense. To demonstrate good sense and decency. After all, all these actions that are now directed, in the perspective of the use of arms, will end in bloodshed. We have the bitter and sad experience of Nagorno-Karabakh. And what is actually happening now in northern Caucasus is a one-to-one repetition of Nagorno-Karabakh. How it ended in Nagorno-Karabakh, and what is now happening there, you all know. And I do not think the public wants the same thing to happen in the Russian Federation. There are political measures, there is political dialogue, there are democratic methods of waging the appropriate political struggle: but on no account with weapons in our hands. And so as vice president I again appeal to the peoples of Chechen-Ingush, to the peoples of northern Caucasus, to the peoples of the Caucasus, to display the maximum—I stress this again—of good sense.

The lives of your fellow citizens are in in your hands. In your hands is a way out of the crisis in which Russia and the Soviet Union now find themselves. And if we today, as people and as a civilization, do not understand what could happen, future generations will never forgive us.

Khasbulatov Views 'Predicament'

LD1110004891 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2123 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Interview with Ruslan Imranovich Khasbulatov, acting chairman of the Supreme Soviet, by unidentified correspondent in Moscow on 10 October—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Ruslan Imranovich, how is the situation now developing in Chechen-Ingush and what actions are being taken by the Russian Supreme Soviet in this connection?

[Khasbulatov] Well, as you know, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet yesterday discussed this issue very thoroughly and adopted a corresponding decision on Chechen-Ingush and the political situation. Today Aleksandr Vladimirovich Rutskoy, the vice president, delivered an information report to the session of the Russian Supreme Soviet. He reported on what is happening there. Naturally this was received with great concern by our deputies and the discussion at the Supreme Soviet today on this issue lasted for over two hours. We have been getting literally thousands of telegrams from citizens themselves demanding that order be established and even that force be used.

We are, of course, against the use of any force, and we do not want that. Indeed, the decision adopted yesterday by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet also says that until the new membership of the Chechen-Ingush republic's Supreme Soviet is elected the Provisional Higher Council formed by the former membership of the Supreme Soviet before its dissolution is to be considered to be the republic's sole legal body of state authority. It is necessary to give this committee [as heard] a chance to function normally.

As you know, I spoke there with many political movements and precisely on the eve of the adoption of this serious decision had meetings, including with this movement, the so-called executive committee, which is actually not an executive committee. It does not represent any congress, but indeed has proclaimed itself to be the

standing body of some executive committee of the Chechen people. In practice it does not represent anyone except perhaps 200-300 desperate young men who are, you know, armed to the teeth and in practice terrorizing the population.

That is what this executive committee, headed by former Air Force General Dudayev, amounts to. Today, after a two-hour discussion, the Supreme Soviet adopted quite a short decision to the effect that people should be sent once again to try once more to persuade these people—extremists, for all intents and purposes—to lay down their weapons and return to their homes. The procurator general and other power structures of the Russian Federation have the job of ensuring normal legal order, ensuring that legal order wins the day, that people's lives and their safety are not put at risk and that normal economic and cultural life is reinstated in the city of Groznyy. This was the decision that essentially all our Supreme Soviet deputies agreed to. We are now to send out a large group of deputies—about six or seven people. They will be headed by... the procurator general is going out.

Of course it is high time to exert very substantial pressure on this group of people. That is absolutely clear. So let the signal we are sending today be our final warning. We cannot tolerate things any further, of course.

[Correspondent] There already is the Supreme Soviet decree demanding that weapons be handed in by 2400 today.

[Khasbulatov] Yes, the deadline expires tonight at 2400. The deputies will today be monitoring the way in which this is being observed. That is what the decision says: We voted in favor of giving the deputies the authority to monitor the way in which all the decisions adopted by us, by the Supreme Soviet Presidium yesterday [9 October], are being observed regarding this, the surrender of weapons. I call on everyone to surrender their weapons. The people are unequivocal in expressing their commitment to being part of the Russian Federation, to being together, to living together, to tackling our common problems together in this difficult predicament. That is what the people are saying. So naturally Dudayev and his associates are not the people, and they have nothing to do with the people. They want to play on the distress of the people. It is a people that has suffered and has been repressed. They have a very poor standard of living. They are somewhere in 67th position in Russia in socioeconomic terms. Just imagine this land prosperous! Of course, the former rulers brought this about. One can only marvel at the long endurance of our people. It was no picnic for the Chechens and the Ingush under all their former leaders. And these extremists are skillfully taking advantage of the disaffection. They are attempting somehow to gain leverage over them and they are behaving badly. They are choosing the wrong way.

That is how the matter stands. Therefore we will naturally be forced to take very tough measures to influence the situation and to bring things into order there. And I am hoping that their common sense will ultimately triumph: They will surrender weapons and give themselves up to the authorities. Some sort of talks will begin. As you know, our people can endure a great deal. So if they stop all that out of their own free will, then, the deputy commission and the law-enforcement bodies will perhaps have sufficient grounds to make allowances for them. But now we have to wait until they submit to our lawful demands.

Revolution Anniversary Remains Holiday

OW1010170391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] November 7 and 8 (anniversary of the October Revolution) will still be holidays in Russia this year, as INTERFAX correspondent was told by the secretary of the Presidium of the Russian Federation's Supreme Soviet Sergey Filatov.

Parliament Votes Against Draft Constitution

LD1010200291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1840 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondents Tamara Zamyatina and Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Oct—Today the Russian parliament voted against the inclusion of the draft Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Constitution as a topic on the agenda of the extraordinary Congress of RSFSR People's Deputies.

During the debate deputies reproached Oleg Rumyantsev, senior secretary of the Supreme Soviet's Constitutional Commission, for the failure to heed MPs' [Member of Parliament] criticisms in the reworked draft.

On behalf of the Soviet of Nationalities, Yevgeniy Muravyev reported that MPs had a number of serious objections to the draft constitution. Among other things they do not agree with the principle that in future the republic should be a federation whose components are described in the draft as lands rather than autonomous entitites, krays, and oblasts. Neither does the Soviet of Nationalities like the proposal that the RSFSR president should be given the power to head the government and to appoint members of the constitutional court.

Deputy Vladimir Isakov, who spoke on behalf of the Soviet of the Republic, also agreed with the sentiments which were voiced. He went on to propose that the draft constitution should not be immediately adopted, advocating instead that legislative groundwork should be laid first, in order that the future constitution does not come into contradiction with existing legislation.

The Supreme Soviet proposed that when the congress resumes its session on 28 October—it was interrupted on 17 July because of its repeated failure to elect a chairman for the republic's parliament—it should examine the following questions: amendments and additions to the existing RSFSR Constitution; the standing orders of the Congress of RSFSR People's Deputies; election of the Supreme Soviet chairman; election of the RSFSR constitutional court; and replacement of some members of the Soviet of the Republic and Soviet of Nationalities.

Deputies Discuss Agenda for Next Congress

OW1010205191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1945 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet voted by roll-call on Thursday [10 October] to turn down the suggestion that the Congress of RSFSR People's Deputies, due to open later this month, discuss a new draft constitution of the republic.

Commenting on the decision, acting Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov observed that it would be up to the congress to decide whether or not to discuss the draft constitution, irrespective of what MPs [Member of Parliament] decided now.

The parliament included in the congress agenda the issue of amendments to the current Constitution of the RSFSR, a reshuffle in both chambers of the Supreme Soviet, and the election of chairman of the republic's parliament and of the Russian Federation's Constitutional Court.

IF's [INTERFAX] parliamentary correspondent reports many members of the Council of Nationalities criticized the Constitution-Supervising Commission for failure to take into account all of the advanced remarks and suggestions.

Official Assesses Yeltsin's Use of Decrees

LD1110101991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0935 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] Abakan (Khakassian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Siberia) 11 Oct (TASS)—Boris Yeltsin "is often obliged to adopt decrees that do not tie in with individual clauses in Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] laws," Mikhail Mityukov, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Legislation, acknowledged while assessing Yeltsin's work in an interview with the newspaper SOVETSKAYA KHAKASIYA. In his view, it is impossible to correct these mistakes owing to the absence of a constitutional court in the power structures. "The solution is seen as lying in completing the creation of counterweights to presidential power, the election of a constitutional court, and the defining of the legal status of the State Council, state secretary, and the advisors of the RSFSR president.... The Council of Ministers must deal with economics rather than politics. Politics must become the preserve of the State Council," Mikhail Mityukov thinks.

Resolution on Soviets' Actions During Coup

PM1110134891 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Oct 91 p 2

["Supreme Soviet Presidium Resolution on the Results of the Examination at Sessions of Soviets of Republics in the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, Krays, Oblasts, the Autonomous Oblast, Autonomous Okrugs, Rayons, Cities, and Settlements of Questions of the Work of Soviets and Their Organs and Officials During the Coup D'Etat Period," dated 23 September 1991]

[Text] Having listened to a report by G.S. Zhukov, chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet Committee on Questions of the Work of Soviets and Development of Self-Government, on RSFSR soviets' implementation of the 23 August 1991 RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution "On the Activities of RSFSR Soviets During the Coup d'Etat," the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium notes that the Supreme Soviets of republics in the RSFSR and soviets of krays, oblasts, the autonomous oblast, and autonomous okrugs, and the majority of local soviets examined at sessions the question of the work of soviets and their organs and officials on the implementation of RSFSR presidential decrees during the coup d'etat period and adopted relevant decisions.

The materials submitted to the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium show that at the sessions of Supreme Soviets of republics in the RSFSR and of RSFSR kray, oblast, and local soviets the deputies in the main objectively assessed the actions of soviets' organs and officials during the coup. Some 17 chairmen of kray and oblast soviets were released from their posts for lack of principle and tardiness or failure to adopt prompt measures. The entire presidiums of the Altay, Krasnodar, and Krasnoyarsk Kray and Lipetsk, Murmansk, Nizhniy Novgorod, Rostov, and Saratov Oblast Soviets resigned at the sessions.

The RSFSR Prosecutor's Office has instituted criminal proceedings against 30 officials of local soviets who by their actions supported the coup participants.

The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium also notes that sessions of the Supreme Soviets of the Karelian ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic], Komi SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic], North Ossetian SSR, and Republic of Tatarstan and the Amur, Belgorod, Vladimir, Novosibirsk, Orenburg, and Pskov Oblast Soviets failed to provide a principled assessment of actions by soviet officials and organs to carry out their constitutional duties in the emergency situation.

To conceal their inactivity, the Vladimir and Novosibirsk Oblast Soviet presidiums adopted resolutions on 20 August which do not contain a political and legal assessment of the coup and fail to describe the SCSE [State Committee for the State of Emergency] as an unconstitutional body. In the Karelian ASSR and Amur and Orenburg Oblasts the soviet presidiums assessed the tragic events two days after the coup, while in the North Ossetian SSR and Pskov Oblast the organs of state power did not express an opinion on the events. In its resolution the Komi SSR Supreme Soviet was of the opinion that its presidium had acted strictly within the framework of the Komi SSR Constitution, although this very organ had sent out instructions to local bodies on 19 August on the implementation of SCSE resolutions.

The Republic of Tatarstan Supreme Soviet session approved the activities of republic President M.Sh. Shaymiyev during the coup, despite the fact that rallies, demonstrations, and marches were banned in the city of Kazan and censorship of the media was introduced by presidential decree.

The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium dismissed a number of chairmen of kray and oblast soviets and the RSFSR president dismissed a number of chairmen of kray and oblast soviet executive committees for failing to carry out their constitutional duties during the coup.

In connection with the appeal to the RSFSR Supreme Soviet by RSFSR People's Deputies V.V. Donskikh (Lipetsk Oblast), L.A. Ivanchenko (Rostov Oblast), and A.I. Ryabov (Tambov Oblast), the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium adopted measures to conduct a deputies' investigation of these deputies' activities during the coup d'etat.

The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium rules that:

1. Cognizance be taken of the report on the sessions of the Supreme Soviets of republics in the RSFSR and soviets of krays, oblasts, the autonomous oblast, autonomous okrugs, rayons, cities, and settlements on questions of the work of soviets and their organs and officials during the coup d'etat.

2. It be noted that the presidiums of the Supreme Soviets of the Karelian ASSR, Komi SSR, North Ossetian SSR, and Republic of Tatarstan failed to provide a principled assessment of the actions of the unconstitutional committee for the state of emergency in the USSR, while the Amur, Belgorod, Vladimir, Novosibirsk, Orenburg, and Pskov Oblast Soviets, which failed to carry out their constitutional duties from 19 through 21 August, failed to provide a principled assessment of the actions of the relevant soviet officials during that period.

3. The Republic of Tatarstan president's 21 August 1991 decree "On the Formation of a Temporary Commission" is to be deemed invalid from the moment of publication, since it violates the constitutional rights of USSR citizens to freedom of expression and of the press, enshrined in Article 48 of the RSFSR Constitution, and contradicts Article 1 of the USSR Law "On the Press and Other Media."

4. Cognizance be taken of the information that the deputies' commission for the parliamentary investigation of the causes and circumstances of the coup d'etat is checking on the activities of soviet officials in a number of republics in the RSFSR and krays and oblasts, including the Republic of Tatarstan and Lipetsk, Rostov, and Tambov Oblasts.

If necessary, at the suggestion of the deputies' commission, the question of the actions of leaders of organs of power and governments during the coup will be examined again at soviet sessions and legal assessments will be made in accordance with existing legislation.

5. The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Committee on Questions of Soviets' Work and Development of Self-Government and the deputies' commission to investigate the causes and circumstances of the coup d'etat are instructed to summarize the materials on the activities of leaders of soviets and other officials during the coup and to inform the Fifth Congress of RSFSR People's Deputies accordingly.

R.I. Khasbulatov, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet.
RSFSR House of Soviets, Moscow, 23 September 1991.

Federation Affairs

Yeltsin Returns to Moscow From Vacation

LD1010111991 Moscow TASS in English 1104 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondent Nikolay Stepanchenko; TASS transmits a service message at 1157 GMT killing the following item]

[Text] Moscow October 10 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin was back at work today.

According to Valeriy Grishin, chief of the presidential press service, Yeltsin flew to Moscow from the Black Sea resort of Sochi, where he had stayed on vacation, last night.

To Arrive in Moscow 'Tonight'

LD1010161791 Moscow TASS in English 1540 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondent Nikolay Stepanchenko]

[Text] Moscow, October 10 TASS—Russia's President Boris Yeltsin will arrive in Moscow tonight from Sochi where he has been on holiday, staff members of the president's Information Department told TASS.

Expected To Address Parliament

LD1010142191 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] There is hope that Russia will join the economic community and will be among the first republics to do so. The hope is largely linked with the stand of the republic's president, Boris Yeltsin. He has returned to Moscow today after a vacation, and will resume work. Shortly he is expected to address the Russian parliament, where he is certain to proclaim the final decision. One can suppose that, as far as the destiny of the Alma-Ata agreement is concerned, his speech will hardly run much differently from his previous stand, fashioned by his personal corrections on the document approved by the republics at the meeting in Alma-Ata.

To Meet With Gorbachev 11 Oct

LD1010225291 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2100 GMT 10 Oct 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Boris Yeltsin returned to Moscow late tonight from his holidays in Sochi. According to INTERFAX he will take part in the sitting of the USSR State Council tomorrow, where the issues of economic agreement among the republics and the problems of foodstuffs will be discussed.

A meeting between Yeltsin and Gorbachev is planned before the sitting of the State Council. It looks as if the crisis in Checheno-Ingushetia is among the most urgent matters which Yeltsin will have to deal with after his holidays.

Yeltsin Appoints Oblast Representatives

LD1010165191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1400 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin has appointed the following as his representatives to coordinate the activities of bodies of executive power in Russia, krays, and oblasts:

in Bryansk Oblast—Vladimir Barabanov;
in Kalingrad Oblast—Tamara Poluektova;
in Kursk Oblast—Aleksandr Kureninov;
in Magadan Oblast—Sergey Petrishchevo;
in Orlov Oblast—Valeriy Yevdokimov;
in Perm Oblast—Sergey Kalyagin;
in Chelyabinsk Oblast—Vladimir Seleznev;
in Stavropol Kray—Aleksey Kulakovskiy.

Yuriy Yarov has been appointed representative of St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast.

Reportage Continues on Alma-Ata Draft Talks

Treaty Amendments Suggested

OW1010184991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1740 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A document signed on behalf of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Government by Oleg Lobov contains the following major critical remarks on the treaty of economic union initialed in Alma-Ata: 1) the treaty preserves the center as an "extra" member of the future economic community; 2) the proposed mechanism of intracommunity relations infringes upon the interests of the Russian Federation; 3) the consequences of the possible nonconclusion of additional agreements envisaged by the treaty are unknown.

According to IF's [INTERFAX] information, the government suggests a whole package of amendments largely aimed at making the community as loose as possible structurally. The document says that intracommunity decisions cannot be automatically mandatory for all but should be taken by the appropriate bodies of each republic in compliance with the laws adopted on its territory.

Among other things, the government suggests that:

—the idea of setting up an interstate emission bank should be dropped and the banking system be built up exclusively on the basis of a union of the central banks of all the member republics;

—the USSR's internal debt should be distributed among the member republics under a separate agreement and with due regard for the structure, reasons and circumstances of the debt's formation;

—the criteria for defining each member republic's contribution should be revised as so to rule out situations whereby the RSFSR would automatically shoulder the bulk of common expenditures.

The document supports the RSFSR State Council's call for signing an economic treaty only after political agreements have been concluded by the republics. The signatures under the initialed treaty of members of the Russian government, including Yevgeniy Saburov, are disavowed as those of persons "who took part in the process of negotiations as independent experts."

Lobov Signs Main Objections

LD1010195391 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] The treaty on the economic community, initialed in Alma-Ata, retains in effect an additional member of the community: the center. The mechanism for implementing relations between the members of the community proposed in the document objectively undermines

the interests of the Russian Federation. The consequences of possible nonapproval of secondary agreements on specific issues stipulated in the treaty are unknown.

These are the three main objections against the Alma-Ata treaty expressed in the document prepared by the Russian Council of Ministers and signed by Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic First Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Lobov.

Policies Disavowed in Agreement

OW1010225391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2147 GMT 10 Oct 91

[From the "Soviet Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Government disavowed the signature of its representative on the agreement establishing an economic community (to include the former Soviet republics) and suggested amendments to the document that has already been initialled by most Soviet republics.

Russia rejects the proposed establishment of a suprarepublican emission [word as received] bank and suggests setting up a banking union comprised only of the community members' central banks.

The Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Government also suggested signing a special deal on dividing the USSR's domestic debt "with account of the structure, causes and factors determining the incurring" of this debt.

Another important amendment lays down the procedure for the members of the economic community to make their contributions. According to the Russian Government, it is necessary to preclude "Russia's shouldering the bulk of expenditures."

Council Issues Document on Treaty

LD1110040891 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0300 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] The treaty on an economic community initialed in Alma-Ata in essence preserves a sort of additional member of the community—the center—says a document circulated by the Russian Council of Ministers. The mechanism for implementing mutual relations between the members of the community advanced in the document objectively impinges on the interests of the Russian Federation. The consequences of the possible nonconclusion of additional agreements on the specific issues envisaged by the treaty are an unknown quantity. The criticism of the draft treaty, which the INTERFAX Agency possesses, puts forward a whole number of corrections. Basically, they provide for a maximum relaxation of the institutions of the community, whose decisions, according to the document, cannot be automatically binding even within their competence, but are adopted with the appropriate bodies of the members of the community within the framework of the legislation operating on their territory and normative acts.

Khasbulatov Briefing Asserts Russia's Primacy

PM1010144991 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 Oct 91 First Edition pp 1-2

["Abridged" account of news conference given by R.I. Khasbulatov, acting chairman of the Supreme Soviet; no date given: "Only Russia Can Be the Successor to the Union"]

[Text] [Khasbulatov] There are a number of people who have recently come into the limelight in the papers, journals, and on television. But they only highlight the most serious problems. Most often secondary issues are discussed which are not based on anything serious. The grave situation the population is in and the most unsatisfactory work of the local authorities does not for some reason concern television, radio, or the newspapers. And attention is focused on some differences between the Supreme Soviet and the Russian president etc.

I would like to say that there are no differences between the Supreme Soviet and the Russian president. The only thing which alarmed the deputies was the degree, the level of constitutional and legal purity of the presidential decrees. But his aides did not do their work properly here. And instead of taking the blame on themselves, as politicians are supposed to, they began saying: It's nothing to do with us; it was someone else who did this, they say, and we have nothing to do with it.

I yet again emphasize: There are no differences between us and the president. Just judge for yourselves, the Supreme Soviet was in recess for two-and-a-half months. So should the president also have gone on holiday or been idle? Actually he acted. And did so energetically. And thank God he held things together when the supreme legislative power was unable to work normally.

And another thing. The situation within the Russian Federation of course bothers me very much. We bear responsibility for Russia, and we should understand how heavy this burden is. But unfortunately many people have turned up who are hostage to their ambition and are straining to get into politics. They give interviews left, right, and center, trying to make out that all of this is official policy. This is a dangerous trend. Each person should know his place, and each should carry out his duty. And each person should work. But when many statements and words appear, this worries our voters.

[Question] You visited Yugoslavia not so long ago and know what the situation there is like now. Recently opinions have been voiced that the sad Yugoslavian experience may repeat itself on the Soviet Union's territory. How real is this danger?

[Khasbulatov] It is real. Not only within the structure of the Soviet Union. We bear responsibility for Russia, and

I very much fear that Russia will be balkanized, especially in the Caucasus. The conflagration of Nagorno-Karabakh is being transferred to the North Caucasus. Great quantities of arms are getting through. You see morality and ethics are not characteristic of certain local leaders. You have to see clearly just why they need to be liberated from Russia. Several local rulers would like to become khans or beys. Can we allow them to ruin Russia?

If we take international law as our basis, there should be two referenda. One referendum would be a local one, on the territory of, say, the republic: How does the republic regard its full autonomy? The second should be a Russian one: Do the Russians want an independent state to exist in the heart of Russia? The results of the referenda should become reality.

However, I don't know if you see this, but an understanding of what independence [samostiynost] can get you into is increasing. It is only nationalists and radical elements who force sovereignization on people in a form which is unthinkable for a unitary state.

[Question] Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Kunadze said on the Kuril Islands that Russia intended to follow to the letter the joint 1956 Declaration Between the Soviet Union and Japan, which mentions handing over two islands. Does this reflect the republic leadership's general official position?

[Khasbulatov] I expressed the official opinion in Japan. I handed over a message from the Russian president to Mr. Kaifu and expressed our official opinion. It revolves around our refusal to follow the principle of building relations on the basis that there is a "victor" and a "vanquished," and we confirm that a very serious problem lies in the path of a peace treaty—the territorial problem. We consider it ipossible to reduce the five stages in this problem's resolution which Yeltsin spoke about in January 1990. I told the Japanese side about this and met with understanding. This issue is important first and foremost to Russia and not the Soviet Union.

[Question] Does it not seem to you that your stance regarding the autonomous republics' autonomy (that two referenda must be held) resembles Gorbachev's stance a year ago with regard to the autonomy and independence of the Union republics? Are you in general comfortable with such a comparison?

[Khasbulatov] But here we have two different problems. What is the Union? In actual fact, though we call it a federation, our Union state is really a confederation. Because there is no right to freely secede from the state in any federation in the world. Clear federative principles were laid down from the very beginning in the Russian Federation's Constitution. There are no provisions for some republic or oblast to secede from it. But we are a democratic country. And we say: "OK, go ahead, hold two referenda." Hold them in Tatarstan, for example. But there 40 percent of the people are Tatars and there are just as many Russians. To whom do we give the right to secede from Russia—the Tatars or the Russians?

Therefore I consider: What we are proposing is the most democratic option and is in accordance with international law.

You should also never forget about Russia's role in the international community. When Mr. Landsbergis was here he said the following. Practically speaking, the Americans, the French, the British, the Germans, and so on are prepared to recognize us, but they ask: But how is Russia disposed toward you? If Russia recognizes you, we are prepared to recognize you too. Two days after our conversation a Russian presidential decree was issued on recognizing their independence. And the day after that the Western countries recognized them. But the Baltic is a separate matter; it is not possible to attempt to dismember the unified and indivisible Russian state.

[Question] When addressing a meeting with deputies Tuesday [1 October], RSFSR State Secretary G. Burbulis expressed the personal opinion that he considers that Russia is now obliged to declare its independence, having stipulated at the same time that it is the Union's successor. Ruslan Imranovich, is the republic president's viewpoint on the issue of independence known to you?

[Khasbulatov] We are independent as things stand, and no further declarations are necessary in order to comprehend the fact of Russia's independence. As an independent country we are now obliged to carry out our moral duty as a country bringing peoples and states together.

The president holds precisely that view of which I spoke. And tell me who else should be the Soviet Union's successor if not Russia? I long ago said that the nuclear weapons should be resited on Russian territory. We were preparing for that situation. August only speeded up this process.

And we predicted that the center would come to terms with the fact of the republics' leaving the Union, but it would fight for power in Russia. It is attempting to steal back the initiative. This has come to pass.

And all the actions—the Lithuanian scenario, the actions of the "six," the parliamentary "putsches"—all of this was done to knock us off our political course. The August putsch was also something of this ilk.

[Question] Is the Russian Federation's parliament ready to support the plan for an economic community which was approved in principle in Alma-Ata? And a second question. Do you consider that there is some kind of in crisis in Russia's administrative organs, and who in your opinion will be the new prime minister?

[Khasbulatov] We are ready to approve, and the Supreme Soviet of course will approve, any initiative if it is directed at unity. I would like to draw to your attention academician Granberg's research. He has worked out each Union republic's degree of independence. Russia's

degree of independence is, of course, greater. The eventuality of Russia existing autonomously is almost beyond question. But while preserving and controlling foreign trade links.

However, not one Union republic is in a position to preserve its autonomy without firm links with Russia. This is the conclusion he came to, and he has conclusive proof.

As concerns the autonomous republics, it has so happened that industry in these republics has developed by gearing itself to the needs of the Union as a whole, and occupying a position, so to speak, "with its back to the people." The chemical, petrochemical, and machine-building sectors have become dilapidated. There is also nothing there by which the people could feed themselves. Therefore, in my opinion, there can be no question of any of our autonomous republics being able to exist autonomously.

On the subject of the government crisis. There is, of course, a crisis. And we have, of course, to look for a prime minister, but, naturally, we are waiting for an initiative from the president. This is an issue for the president and the parliament understands this and is acting tactfully. We are awaiting the president's representations.

[Question] As experience shows, practically all national conflicts come down to a question of territory. In your view, how possible is it to create in the new Russian Constitution the preconditions for resolving such conflicts, and what might they comprise?

[Khasbulatov] We have an unhealthy attitude toward the issue of territory. This question must not be raised. And we are not intending to resolve territorial problems except in those cases when it is a question of restoring the rights of repressed peoples.

[Question] How accurate are the initial rumors that Boris Nikolayevich apparently intends to make a joint statement together with Mikhail Sergeyevich that the economic agreement between the former republics must obligatorily be combined with an agreement on political union?

[Khasbulatov] The economic agreement is essential for us. Unfortunately, the republics do not understand that we support many Union republics economically to our own detriment. In my view, there should be some kind of linkage with certain political agreements. For example, it is clear that it is necessary to run the Army from a single center. Or are we to divide up the nuclear weapons? But this is not possible. And it must not be done. Furthermore, there is an international treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. And in this respect, of course, only Russia can be the Soviet Union's successor.

Therefore I consider that in these circumstances a joint statement by the two presidents would stabilize the situation. I believe that the Russian Supreme Soviet would support them.

Founding Conference of Socialist Party Held

OW1010130991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1115 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A new Russian left-wing socialist party will hold its founding conference not later than in December. The statement was made at a Moscow news conference by a member of the organizing group of the party, USSR People's Deputy Roy Medvedev.

He said that the CPSU cannot be revived in its old form. He said that the new party will work on the basis of the program approved by the last plenum of the CPSU and will be reformist, not revolutionary.

Medvedev denounced the decision of the Russian authorities to suspend CPSU activities and the "robbing" of its property.

At the same news conference another member of the group Anatoliy Denisov declared that one should not expect justice toward the CPSU because such a decision might be misused by communist extremists and orthodoxes. He said he personally spoke with President Gorbachev about the formation of the new party. According to Denisov, the president said his convictions largely coincide with the views of the organizing group about the need to build democratic humane socialism.

Cochairman of the parliamentary faction Communists of Russia Ivan Rybkin said the faction supports the formation of the new party and will hold a special meeting later this month. He said the new party has more in common than differences with the Democratic Party of Communists of Russia led by Rutskoy.

It was disclosed at the news conference that the idea of forming a new party is supported in the secretariat of the former Central Committee of the CPSU and by the leader of the Russian Communist Party Valentin Kuptsov.

Poll Rates Popularity of National Figures

924B0009A Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Sep 91 p 2

[Unattributed article: "Verification of the Victory"]

[Text] (A survey of the results of a public opinion poll conducted by the Rossika Center for Representative Sampling in Russia—15-19 September; 1,500 questioned.)

With respect to personal assessments (ratings), one can observe a rapid growth of the popularity of the main heroes of August, some of whom have been raised to an unprecedented level in the public consciousness. Muscovites who observed the dramatic events from close up single out the behavior of Yeltsin, Rutskoy, Shevardnadze, Khasbulatov, Rumyantsev, and Yushenkov.

Rating on a Five-Point Scale

Name	Moscow	Large Cities	Samll Cities and Villages	Ratio Between Supporters and Nonsupporters
1. B.N. Yeltsin	4.36	4.44	3.95	86.5:4.3
2. A.A. Sobchak	4.31	4.07	3.49	83.8:4.0
3. E.A. Shevardnadze	4.06	4.05	3.44	74.8:7.1
4. A.V. Rutskoy	4.02	3.82	3.26	68.0:4.1
5. I.S. Silayev	3.99	3.89	3.26	73.3:6.1
6. G.A. Yavlinskiy	3.87	3.88	3.26	63.8:6.8
7. R.I. Khasbulatov	3.85	4.24	3.32	69.7:5.0
8. S.B. Stankevich	3.83	3.35	3.14	66.1:6.0
9. G.Kh. Popov	3.77	3.46	3.28	65.6:11.0
10. S.S. Shatalin	3.71	3.58	3.18	57.1:5.0
11. A.N. Yakovlev	3.70	3.64	3.21	58.3:8.3
12. V.V. Bakatin	3.51	3.72	3.37	52.8:10.6
13. I.I. Zaslavskiy	3.46	3.22	3.15	42.3:9.0
14. G.V. Starovoytova	3.42	3.32	3.04	43.1:12.0
15. N. Nazarbayev	3.32	3.47	3.16	38.8:14.1
16. S.M. Shakhray	3.28	3.45	3.02	28.3:5.3
17. M.S. Gorbachev	3.26	2.93	3.11	41.3:22.2
18. O.G. Rumyantsev	3.23	3.07	3.06	18.7:5.6
19. T.Kh. Gdlyan	3.20	3.88	3.35	46.0:14.3
20. G.E. Burbulis	3.13	3.10	3.08	15.3:5.8
21. Yu.N. Afanasyev	3.03	3.17	2.91	28.5:11.7
22. V. Landsbergis	3.01	2.99	2.94	26.5:21.6
23. L.M. Kravchuk	2.80	2.83	2.92	11.8:22.7
24. N.I. Travkin	2.76	3.24	2.93	16.0:28.0
25. A. Mutalibov	2.49	2.60	2.92	3.5:34.5
26. V.I. Alksnis	2.14	2.61	2.82	7.5:54.1
27. Z.K. Gamsakhurdia	2.09	2.45	2.77	4.0:55.5
28. V.V. Zhirinovskiy	1.58	2.01	2.80	3.7:78.5

Rural areas and small cities remain unpoliticized and politicians are practically unknown there except for Yeltsin and Gorbachev. It is still difficult to explain the significant decline in the ratings of such once-popular people as Afanasyev and Travkin. Zhirinovskiy has become a completely odious figure.

The majority of figures on the list have a markedly democratic character and approximately the same image. They are idols primarily of the radical intelligentsia in the large cities and of youth. The exceptions are Khasbulatov, Bakatin, and Nazarbayev, whom public opinion regards more as democratic-centrists; the populist Gdlyan, whom the intelligentsia hold in considerably less esteem, has a special image; Zhirinovskiy, Alksnis, Mutalibov, and Gamsakhurdia have a markedly reactionary image.

So far there is no opposition in public opinion to the autocratic leanings of the winners. And it would have been easy to predict this earlier. Sometime in the spring there was a merging in the mass consciousness of the democrat and rebel Yeltsin with the strong hand that some desire so much. And, possibly, the future is not the brightest for democrats in Russia in the next few years. This, of course, is by no means a matter of the personality of Yeltsin or Popov, but of the considerable antidemocratic potential which still exists in the society, in which democracy (in the image of "pluralism") was more a result of the two centers of political power than of a perceived need.

	Moscow	Large Cities	Small Cities, Villages
"One must always observe the spirit and letter of the laws and regulations, even if they are imperfect."	44.8	30.4	27.1
"A strong and authoritarian leader to whom the people have entrusted their destiny is more important than laws."	32.1	42.9	39.4

Deputies', Voters' Estrangement Scored

PM1110085391 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Oct 91 Single Edition p 2

[Article by Ye. Sorokin: "Democrats Need Opposition. Even From Among... Democrats"]

[Text] It seems as though our fast-moving times are starting to sort things out. The past week has convincingly shown, first, who is who and, second, it has forced us to think about ways to develop political processes in Russia.

It turns out—and this has repeatedly been discussed in the press and repeatedly refuted by the leaders of the democratic majority in the Russian Parliament—that "Democratic Russia" is by no means a homogenous movement. Following B. Yeltsin's triumphant victory its most radical wing espoused presidential structures. The reason is obvious: They want to exploit the Russian president's prestige to gain a sizable slice of power. Although R. Khasbulatov, leader of the Supreme Soviet, has in every possible way denied the existence of tension between the Supreme Soviet and the president, this was reminiscent to a certain extent of the "China option." Do you remember how in Beijing the "Gang of Four" was accused of everything under the sun, while the ideas of the "Great Helmsman" were left untouched?

Why the big argument? The fact is that certain members of the presidential team have issued some not entirely balanced statements, to put it mildly. That is the first point. Second, as is now obvious, certain directives from the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] president were badly elaborated from the legal standpoint and have given rise to wrong interpretations. Hinting that the president is not responsible for this, R. Khasbulatov accused G. Burbulis and S. Shakhray of everything. For which literally next day he was sharply criticized by the latter. Essentially both of them had been trying to preserve B. Yeltsin's reputation, but indirectly he was the person most affected. Yes, Boris Nikolayevich has clearly gone on vacation at a bad time, leaving his flock without any consolidating spiritual guidance.

Sensation followed sensation last week. I have already said that a number of the most desperate democrats in the Russian parliament are unable to do anything apart from solving cadre issues and issuing political statements. Unfortunately, this has proved to be the case. I. Silayev's diplomatic departure for Union structures could still be seen as a desire on the part of the Russian leadership to "strengthen the cadre staff" of the Union. However, the statement by M. Bocharov, chairman of the RSFSR president's Supreme Economic Council, that it is simply impossible to work with the Russian leadership, has opened people's eyes to a great deal.

The problem is that Russian power structures—from the parliament to the ministries—are extremely politicized. The road to the market is often seen not as an economic task but as an opportunity to overthrow the latest "enemy." As the past week has shown, the latter approach is far easier than the former. And yet the people's situation is getting worse and worse.

We ought to forget all our contradictions and purposefully focus on strengthening the economy. But a new political race has already started. It is a highly notable fact that the law on electing leaders of the executive was adopted even despite the fact that it contravened the constitution and flouted other acts of legislation—specifically, on local self-management. The deputies spent almost an hour of their only day a week of plenary sessions on setting the date for the elections—8 December. On the other hand, there was not enough time to adopt the law on indexing the population's income.

It sometimes seems as though the deputies are so divorced from their voters that they are incapable of asking themselves the simplest question: Will people actually go to the polls when the country is at the end of its tether? Actually, I tell a lie! This question clearly has been asked. It is no accident that, under the law, the votes of one quarter of the electorate are sufficient for victory.

All these political squabbles against the backdrop of a poverty-stricken and hungry country are already being seen as farcical. Even entrepreneurs, who until quite recently had stood foursquare behind the Russian leadership, are talking with increasing irritation about how impossible it is to work. The Russian parliament has been in session for months, engaging in more and more empty talk about the need for a speedy transition to the market. Meanwhile, old laws remain in force, nobody has repealed them, and nobody is even thinking about the market economy.

Yes, clearly there is not even any time to think about it. G. Burbulis, who has been appointed RSFSR state secretary, has issued a statement to the effect that Russia should be the "legal successor of the USSR and all its structures," while R. Khasbulatov, reaffirming this, is advocating the transfer of all nuclear weapons to Russian territory. It seems to me that neither of them has "calculated" the consequences of their statements. And how can one fail to recall the words of Ruslan Imranovich [Khasbulatov] himself: "Unfortunately, many people who have been won over by ambition and are set

on a political career are prepared to give interviews right, left, and center, presenting them all not just as popular opinion but as some kind of official policy. This is a dangerous trend. Everyone should know his or her own opinion. Everyone should do his or her duty. And everyone should work."

But, after all, the problem is that few people are actually working. The question of introducing bread rationing in St. Petersburg is being discussed in all seriousness. Last week consumer goods production fell even further. Republics are erecting customs barriers against each other. The hopes pinned on the economic agreement concluded in Alma-Ata are very transparent: Where is the guarantee that those hopes will be fulfilled, if all the accords concluded by the RSFSR with the union republics are undermined? The Russian parliament has found no suitable response even to this problem.

It has been at work for two weeks, but not a single resolution or law have been adopted which would strengthen the economy or improve people's situation. The Russian Government remains decapitated. And this at a time when winter has already arrived, when the harvest has not yet been brought in. It makes you feel sad—and rather scared. S. Shakhray once said that deputies should not make this session a "suicide session," fearing that deputies from the CPSU would be successful in the election of Russian representatives to the Union parliament. It seems that even last week the Russian parliament had just one concern—how to maintain short-term policies.

We need to recall that any policy is doomed to failure if the economy is on its last legs. The Russian parliament no longer has any scapegoats. It is sacrilegious and even criminal to stage political games or campaign for power when the people are contemplating the coming winter with horror. The winter will make an objective assessment of all politicians, give them real ratings, and suggest that some should retire into political oblivion. History can provide examples of this....

Soldiers' Mothers Movement Stage Hunger Strike

OW0910185791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1730 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] It has become known to INTERFAX that one of the hunger-strikers has been taken to hospital today, Wednesday [9 October], after ten days spent near the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet building. The chairwoman of the movement Luyubov Lymar [spelling as received] said that two more women—coming from Irkutsk—are too exhausted to move.

The hunger strike was called in protest against the appointment of Anatoliy Alekseyev as chairman of the USSR Presidential Committee on Prisoners of War and Their Families. According to the strike's organisers, up to 60 women from 66 Russian cities and 14 sovereign republics are taking part.

A press conference will be held at the so-called White House, Entrance 1, Oct. 10 at 15:00 on the open-end hunger strike by Russia's soldiers' mothers.

Kulik Comments on Need To Import Foodstuffs

OW1010015091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2200 GMT O oCT 91

[From "Soviet Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia's Vice Premier Gennadiy Kulik said on Wednesday [9 October] that "to keep food supplies at last year's level," the country must import $10.4 bn. of foodstuffs, including around $6 bn. in credits.

The USSR needs to buy 49 mn. tons of grain, 2.2 mn. tons of meat and 9.5 mn. tons of milk, said Mr. Kulik.

He reported that the Soviet republics would discuss on Friday a blueprint for a food agreement that provides for joint actions on imports.

Under the agreement, the $10.4 bn. worth of imported food will be distributed in the following manner (in bn. U.S. dollars):

Russia	around 6
Ukraine	0.634
Belarus	0.584
Uzbekistan	0.782
Kazakhstan	0.482
Georgia	0.348
Azerbaijan	0.422
Moldova	0.152
Kyrghyzstan	0.178
Tadjikistan	0.272
Armenia	0.206
Turkmenia	0.201

Local Affairs

Chechen-Ingush Situation Continues To Worsen

Chechen Congress Orders Mobilization

LD1010132891 Moscow TASS in English 1308 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Groznyy October 10 TASS—The situation in Chechen-Ingush has become tenser than ever. The executive committee of the Chechen Congress has again ordered its men to gather in streets and squares,

regarding the recent decisions adopted by the presidium of the Russian Supreme Soviet as interference in the domestic affairs of their sovereign republic.

In the document, adopted on Tuesday [8 October], the presidium of the Russian Supreme Soviet ruled to regard the provisional supreme council, formed by the previous supreme soviet of the republic, as the only lawful organ of state power on the territory of Chechen-Ingush pending the election of a new supreme soviet.

Traffic was blocked on the main thoroughfares of Groznyy today morning. A meeting was called at the Council of Ministers of Chechen-Ingush. As earlier reported, the executive committee has ordered the mobilisation of the republic's male population. National guard units were alerted.

Only the executive committee of the Chechen People's National Congress wields real power in conditions when all legislative bodies have been dissolved and the executive organs are functioning under tight rebel control. It has already begun to form its own organs in districts and villages of the republic. But leaders of the national movement are now coming under increasing criticism. Representatives of the intelligentsia are actively demanding the restoration of constitutional government and the organisation of elections to governing bodies in normal conditions.

Shooting is being heard more and more often in Groznyy. It was learned that a group of criminals has fled from an investigation ward in Groznyy. According to preliminary information, received from the republican Ministry of the Interior, some 30 men have fled from the ward. One of them was killed during the shoot-out. Another man has voluntarily surrendered to law enforcement officials.

Guard Seizes Council Building

LD1010194191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Today members of the National Guard of Chechen-Ingushetia seized the building of the republican Council of Ministers in Groznyy. As a result the Council of Ministers was not functioning today. Tension in the capital of Checheno-Ingushetia rose sharply after the executive committee of the National Congress of the Chechen People rejected the decision of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet confirming that the only constitutional organ of power in Chechen-Ingushetia is the provisional Supreme Council [Vysshiy Sovet], which consists mainly of peoples' deputies. It was created to replace the dissolved republic parliament.

In response the Chechen People's National Congress Executive Committee Presidium announced the mobilization of men of Chechen nationality, and that the National Guard would be brought up to full combat readiness. Retired General Dzhakar Dudayev, chairman of the executive committee, assessed the decision of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet as virtually a declaration of war on Checheno-Ingushetia.

Delegation Departs for Groznyy

LD1010225791 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] A Russian delegation left for Groznyy on Thursday to study the situation in Chechen-Ingush. Valentin Stepankov, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic procurator general, is one of the members of the delegation.

North Ossetia To Prevent Territorial Changes

Biragov on Congress' Decision

LD1010222191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1206 GMT 9 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz, 9 Oct (TASS)—The leadership of the North Ossetian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] are continuing to defend their position concerning the fact that any territorial changes may be considered only in accordance with the current constitutions of the USSR, the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, and North Ossetia, and also by taking into account the republic's declaration of state sovereignty. That is what Yuriy Biragov, first deputy chairman of the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet, said to the TASS correspondent.

The reason Yuriy Biragov, a parliamentary leader, has made this statement is the decision of the third congress of the Ingush people to work toward regaining the territories inhabited by the Ingush people before their deportation from the North Caucasus in 1944, with certain territories of North Ossetia included as well. In the opinion of Biragov, the unequivocal nature of the demands adopted by the congress is arousing concern among inhabitants of the republic. He said that the appeals received by the Supreme Soviet from the republic's citizens call for the immediate convocation of the North Ossetian SSR Supreme Soviet session. There are ever more persistent demands that the National Guard, or a detachment for public self-defense, be created.

The first deputy chairman of parliament said that documents have been sent to the presidents of the country and of Russia. The documents state the position of the North Ossetian population on the inviolability of the republic's borders. This question was discussed at the deputies' sessions at all levels, and a unanimous decision was adopted—to prevent any changes in territorial borders.

Leaders Appeal to Presidents

LD1010130791 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz October 10 TASS—An extraordinary sociopolitical situation has formed in the North Ossetian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR], says an appeal by the republican Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers to the presidents of the USSR and the Russian Federation published in the local press today.

The third congress of the Ingush people, which was held in Groznyy, called for solving without delay the issue of detaching the Prigorodniy District and the right-bank part of Vladikavkaz, which "are the territory of the sovereign North Ossetian SSR," from North Ossetia, the appeal says.

According to the latest reports, the 15,000-strong armed National Guard was formed in neighbouring Chechena-Ingushetia. It became known from the same sources that the Ingush population is preparing for disobedience actions on October 12 to the point of an armed seizure of part of North Ossetia's territory.

In view of this, on behalf of the republic's multi-national people, the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of North Ossetia asked the USSR and Russian presidents to give instructions to the USSR and Russian Federation interior ministries to take immediate measures to defend the republic's population against possible provocations, an armed clash or bloodshed.

Court Strikes Spread to Baykal Region

LD1010135991 Moscow TASS in English 0936 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Ulan Ude October 10 TASS—Strikes in Soviet courts, which began in central Russia late in August, have reached the Baykal Region. A district court in Ulan Ude, capital of Buryat, went on strike today. The reason for the strikes is the same everywhere: Court workers demand the improvement of working conditions.

According to the ARGUMENTY I FAKTY weekly, the premises of some 70 per cent of district courts (lower courts in this country) are in appalling condition. Russian President Boris Yeltsin suggested that local authorities give to the courts the premises of former Communist Party committees. However, there are many claimants to the vacant buildings, ranging from cooperative workers to the local government bodies, which do not want to lose an opportunity to secure comfortable premises for themselves.

Kuzbass Wins Contest for EC Credit Contract

LD1010142991 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0700 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] The Kuzbass is to get around $1,300,000 for development of market structures and procurement of foodstuffs in EC countries at a 50-percent discount. This region was the winner in a contest for the right to open lines of credit with the European Economic Community held by representatives of the EEC within the framework of contracts with the Sema Group company. Kuzbass beat Chelyabinsk and St. Petersburg in the contest thanks to having a specific economic program, a commercial bank, and market structures.

'Democratic Russia' To Set Up New Coalition

LD1110081891 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2100 GMT 10 Oct 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Summary] Representatives of those parties which are still members of the Democratic Russia Movement but which do not agree with the policy of its coordination council gathered in Moscow today to set up a coalition of Moscow democratic parties.

In the opinion of I.Konstantinov, member of the Russian Supreme Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet, the Democratic Russia Movement has become a party of a new bourgeois establishment represented by Moscow and Russia's executive powers.

Article Views Establishment of Exchange Union

924A0042A Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 26 Sep 91 Union Edition p 2

[Article by N. Aliyeva: "An Exchange Union Has Been Established"]

[Text] The pillars of market relations have recently been actively formed.

The creation of the Russian Exchange Union and the Association of Exchange Structures of the Agro-Industrial Complex is a case in point. The founding congresses of the two organizations were held in Moscow this week.

A different, market-based allocation of material resources is coming to replace the erstwhile allocation by quota. Under a market allocation system, economic managers do not travel "to hack out" an allocation and secure the delivery of something but rather to simply purchase things. The creation of well-tuned exchange structures makes it possible to arrive at this natural condition sooner.

Cases of mutually advantageous, truly market-based relations between the peasants and the exchanges were cited at the founding congress of the Association of Exchange Structures of the Agro-Industrial Complex.

The exchanges offer various types of contracts. Rural entrepreneurs will certainly be interested in futures contracts under which next year's products are purchased from producers, and 70 percent of their cost is paid in advance.

In the opinion of A.V. Vasilyev, one of the cochairmen of the Association of Exchange Structures of the Agro-Industrial Complex and chairman of the Exchange Board of the Russian Agricultural Exchange, the apprehensions of rural residents, that they will be taken for all they are worth in the trading sessions, are groundless. Indeed, goods will be sold to them at the exchange prices, but their produce will likewise be purchased at exchange prices.

A.V. Vasilyev noted: "Only a market with price parity based on actual supply and demand and complete financial independence may self-regulate the processes of capital flows in the most profitable direction."

As an integral attribute of market relations, commercial and exchange structures indeed speed up the resolution of the foodstuffs issue. After all, they are precisely the ones creating a commercial infrastructure for both delivering goods and materials to the working people of rural areas, and selling the produce grown and bringing it to the consumer.

Representatives of various exchanges who gathered for their founding congresses invited the attention of the Russian parliament to the need to develop exchange legislation as soon as possible.

Congress Meets in Moscow

924A0042B Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Sep 91 Union Edition p 2

[Article by M. Petrov: "The Peasants Have Their Own Exchange"]

[Text] On 24 September, the founding conference of a joint stock company, the Farmer [English word transliterated into Russian] All-Russian Peasant Exchange was held in Moscow. Regional chapters of the AKKOR [Association of Peasant Farms and Agricultural Cooperatives of Russia] became the holders of the main package of shares. The newly created joint stock company set itself the task of vigorously drawing small-scale agricultural producers into the market economy.

Even after receiving land, 30,000 Russian peasants still have not been able to become an influential economic force because they are still smothered by state distribution structures. The selection of the necessary agricultural implements, machines, and construction materials is limited. The peasants still remain separated from the nascent market structures. The emergence of large non-state corporations and concerns which possess sizable capital has done little to improve the situation of the peasants, as the interests of the former do not necessarily coincide with the expectations of small-scale producers of foodstuffs. This is precisely why AKKOR, which from its very inception proclaimed a course toward the organizational and economic unification of free peasants, has taken one of its most significant steps.

The joint stock company intends to provide reliable, long-term channels for the sale of produce, invest in the future success of peasant farms, provide elite seeds and pedigree cattle for them, and render services aimed at implementing efficient technologies. In turn, the peasants will be able to sell their produce profitably through the exchange and receive in return the necessary material resources and consumer goods without the notorious allocation schedules and quotas.

V. Bashmachnikov, AKKOR president, said at the conference: "At present, the independent peasant needs helpers more than ever, but honest helpers, virtual altruists, who will not fleece him and will not exploit initial difficulties."

The founding conference elected the board of directors of the exchange and an auditing commission, and confirmed the charter of the company. V. Bashmachnikov became chairman of the board of the company.

The charter fund of the company comes to 50 million rubles [R]. More than 50 percent of the shares which cost R50,000 each have already been purchased.

Ecological Investment Fund Set Up in Moscow

LD1010140391 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 10 TASS—The ecological investment fund has been set up in Moscow.

The fund having 8 million roubles on its account, aims to give credits to enterprises to resolve environmental protection problems and create safe technologies. The fund receives money from compensation and regular payments by organisations for nature management.

Some 700 enterprises have already paid fines for improper development of environmental protection programmes. But many enterprises responsible for seriously polluting the environment have so far failed to pay for this. The Likhachev automobile works has to pay 5 million roubles to the fund, Deputy Chairman of the Moscow City Environmental Protection Committee Sergey Vasilyev writes in Moscow PRAVDA today.

The city government has begun implementing its resolution on economic methods for regulating nature management. Such methods were adopted in civilised countries long ago. A tax inspection is being created, Vasilyev writes.

Fines are rather hard, but they will help protect the city's ecology. Some 1,200 enterprise have been tested for nature management over a year, and efforts were not in vain, Vasilyev said.

German National District Planned for Omsk

LD1010191391 Moscow TASS in English 1649 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondent Sergey Ryabikin]

[Text] Moscow October 10 TASS—"A German national district may be formed in Omsk Region already this year. It will not only be able to solve the food problem in the region, but also to safeguard the national and cultural traditions of the 134,000 Russian Germans residing in this area," chairman of the parliamentary commission to set up the German national district Bruno Reuter told TASS. A referendum is to be held on October 13. All the population of Omsk Region will take part in it. Reuter believes they will sanction the creation of the Soviet Union's second German district.

The territory, where the district is to be formed, is now inhabited by 35,000 Russian Germans, accounting for about two-thirds of the local population. Sixty-five thousand more Germans live in nearby villages. Plans are afoot to set up national councils in 27 populated localities. Together with these communities the district will form a single economic association of German husbandries in Omsk Region. It will rally about 100,000 representatives of this nationality, now cultivating 250,000 hectares of ploughland.

"If we cope with this task," Reuter stressed, the economic association will be able to meet all the requirements of 1 million Omsk residents in food products, especially sausages, cheese and sugar. The Russian Germans do not have to be taught the art of growing crops or producing various foodstuffs. They only need equipment to process their farm produce."

According to Reuter, much hope is pinned on aid from Germany. "We are prepared to launch joint ventures and to promote various forms of cooperation with German businessmen," Reuter said, "but we need no handouts. Our Siberian pride will not stand it."

Vorkuta Decides To Remain in Komi SSR

LD1010142491 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Summary] An extraordinary session of the Vorkuta town soviet voted Wednesday night against holding a referendum on ceasing to be part of the Komi Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR]. A no-confidence vote in the Komi SSR Supreme Soviet and its Presidium was also defeated.

Media

Russian TV Broadcasts Resume in Uzbekistan

LD1010211191 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1500 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Uzbekistan's television viewers can again watch Russian television programs. Arkhangelskiy, deputy chairman of Uzbekistan State Television and Radio, announced that the channel of the Central Television Second Program which was closed down a few months ago will work on a regular basis. True, he said, in order to provide better information for residents of the republic, programs of Central Television Second Program will sometimes be replaced with Uzbek Television programs addressed, in the main, to the Russian-speaking part of the population, and representatives of nonindigenous nationalities.

Press Minister Registers New Paper 8 Oct

LD1010151291 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Fedotov, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic deputy minister of information and the press, signed a certificate on 8 October on the registration of the DEN [DAY] newspaper.

New Teachers Newspaper To Be Published 1 Jan

PM1010151391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Oct 91 Union Edition p 6

[Report by A. Zverev: "Russian Teachers' Newspaper"]

[Text] A new newspaper for Russian teachers—OBRAZOVANIYE [EDUCATION]—will be published beginning 1 January next year.

It will be a 16-page weekly with the format of MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI. A. Tsirulnikov, eminent specialist in the history of Soviet schools, pedagogue, and writer, has been appointed its chief editor. The new publication has been founded by the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Ministry of Education, the RSFSR Ministry of the Press and Mass Information, and the Republic Committee for Affairs of Science and Higher Schools. The majority of the founders have also declared their intention to set up the CHISTYYE PRUDY [CLEAN PONDS] Russian Pedagogic Press and Information Agency in the very near future. It is proposed that the agency will embrace a whole constellation of specialized pedagogic publications and a Soviet-Bulgarian journal of children's comics.

International Affairs

Ministry Upholds 'More Radical' Arms Proposals

PM1010154391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[Report by G. Charodeyev: "Russian Foreign Ministry Favors More Radical Nuclear Arms Reductions"]

[Text] Reginald Bartholomew, U.S. under secretary of state, left Moscow for Washington on the night of 7-8 October, earlier than scheduled. As is known, he was

holding consultations in our country on a radical reduction in the two countries' nuclear arsenals.

Such haste on the part of the senior U.S. official is evidently explained by the fact that he intends to bring to his President's attention the latest initiatives put forward by the Soviet leadership and Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev.

The Russian proposals made at the meeting with the U.S. under secretary of state in Moscow boil down to the fact that, by way of more radical strategic offensive arms reductions than were envisaged by the corresponding treaty between the USSR and the United States, the number of strategic nuclear warheads on the USSR's side on expiry of the seven-year period of reductions should total not around 50 percent of the current level, as proposed by President M. Gorbachev, but "somewhat less."

IZVESTIYA's correspondent was informed by the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Foreign Ministry that the Russian side is proposing an initiative to start talks on a further radical reduction in strategic offensive arms not by one-half but by two-thirds. As is known, the main part of the USSR's nuclear potential is located on RSFSR territory.

During the conversation, the Russian minister stated that nuclear weapons are and will remain under centralized unified control and that the proposals put forward are aimed at assisting the Soviet-U.S. dialogue in this sphere.

Commenting on the RSFSR Foreign Ministry's position at the IZVESTIYA correspondent's request, USSR Foreign Minister Boris Pankin said: "USSR President M. Gorbachev's initiative is being undertaken after considerable expert study and expresses in concentrated form the republics' aggregate interests. Representatives of Russia, the Ukraine, Belorussia, and Kazakhstan participated in the consultations with the U.S. delegation that visited Moscow.

"The Russian Foreign Ministry statement once more reaffirms the mood in our country in favor of radical measures on nuclear disarmament. The statement is based on the center's initiatives and endorses them, indicating the horizons of a possible future reduction in nuclear weapons. I would especially like to single out the decisiveness with which the Russian Foreign Ministry came out in favor of banning nuclear tests, which, as you know, is entirely in keeping with the political line of the USSR president and State Council."

Article Examines Reactions to Arms Proposals

92UF0051A Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 8 Oct 91 p 3

[Article by A.O. [not further identified]: "The World Says 'Yes' to M. Gorbachev's Statement. What About Us?"]

[Text] After U.S. President G. Bush presented his antinuclear initiative, the world public spent about a week wearily waiting for the official Soviet reaction. The first positive comments by the president's press service and Ministry of Foreign Affairs staffers have not been particularly satisfactory. Moreover, some of the Soviet and foreign press started almost to accuse the Soviet president of an allegedly "indistinct" reaction to the American initiative. Then the reaction came—M. Gorbachev's statement on Soviet television dotted all the i's. One would assume that a week-long pause between the statements of the two presidents is justified. The Soviet leader probably had to not only go over the content of his reciprocal initiative but also consult with the sovereign republics. This is also a sign of the new times.

Yesterday, the teletype brought up a multitude of reports on the reaction abroad to M. Gorbachev's statement. We will cite only two responses.

Influential American Democratic Senator Joseph Biden said that U.S. President Bush has shown new thinking by proposing to liquidate tactical nuclear weapons. Nevertheless, there is a "good deal of old thinking" left in the White House approach to the problem of strategic arms and the SDI program. Now that Moscow is displaying its readiness to agree to a substantial reduction in the number of strategic warheads, emphasized J. Biden, "Washington can no longer wave off the discussion of radical reductions."

Georges Seguy, a leader of the French pacifist organization "The Appeal of the Hundred," which unites prominent figures in culture and science, said that "new steps taken by the Soviet Union in response to U.S. proposals in the area of reduction of its nuclear potential will lead to speedier disarmament in the entire world, to a decisive stage in this process."

Is there any need to continue, asks the leader of "The Appeal of the Hundred," spending billions of francs on the perfection of the French forces of nuclear deterrence on the basis of the hypothesis of a potential conflict between West and East? It is clear that one should decisively take the road of peace, opened by the USSR and the United States, and in particular at least stop the nuclear testing. Then Paris would have brought its statements and actions into accord with reality. Such a decision would have made a substantial contribution to the cause of detente.

It came out, from domestic rather than foreign reports, that the issues of nuclear arms reduction in the context of the latest initiatives by G. Bush and M. Gorbachev's response proposals will be discussed today at the meeting between Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and the U.S. Under Secretary of State for Security Assistance, Science and Technology, Reginald Bartholomew. It is expected that additional even more radical proposals in regard to nuclear arms reductions and universal disarmament will be presented by Russia.

In what sense are all these reports on reaction to the antinuclear initiatives of the two presidents remarkable? In that they have paved the way for the escalation of similar initiatives and proposals. One would assume that, after a naturally positive reaction to the statements by G. Bush and M. Gorbachev, the world community will speak up decisively in favor of speeding up—perhaps this new term will gain currency—the disarmament race, and apply pressure in the direction of intensification of this process.

Yes, it is quite possible that Russia will speak up for more radical disarmament measures. I think that in both the United States and the other nuclear powers new proposals will be put forward in this area. The pacifist—without quotation marks—pressure on the USSR and U.S. presidents will grow. All of this is normal and is something to cheer about. In any case, for our country the slackening of the noose of military expenditures can only be cause for satisfaction. At the same time, I would like to warn against the euphoria of disarming, since it is very important to determine the margin of sufficient security for our country. Necessary and sufficient, as mathematicians say. The country is currently surrounded by difficult, to put it mildly, neighbors. That is why I would like to call on our president, who is at the same time our supreme commander in chief, to define very precisely, and perhaps even inform all of us, where and when we should stop on the road of escalation of disarmament.

Delegation, Businessmen Visit U.S. for Talks

LD0910182391 Moscow TASS in English 1328 GMT 9 Oct 91

[By correspondent Vladimir Matyash]

[Text] Washington October 9 TASS—A Russian parliament delegation, led by Russia's Deputy Prime Minister Mikhail Maley, arrived in the United States on Tuesday, accompanied by a large group of Russia's business people.

The delegation, who will stay in the United States for a week, will meet with Senator Dennis DeConcini, chairman of the U.S. Congressional Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, members of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, the leadership of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

There will be discussions with the U.S. business community and first of all with U.S. businessmen that are going to operate on the Russian market.

The most critical moment in Russian history and, undoubtedly, in the history of American-Soviet relations has come, Robert Feldman, the organiser of the trip and president of the California-based East-West International Travel Company, told TASS.

This visit not only provides an opportunity for ordinary Americans to express gratitude to the heroes of Russia but will also enable the delegation to get first-hand information on U.S. political and economic institutions.

Dispute Continues With Japan Over Kurils

Fedorov Talks to Sakhalin Locals

LD1010221391 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0850 GMT 9 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Belovitskiy]

[Text] Kurilsk (Sakhalin Oblast), 9 Oct (TASS)—Valentin Fedorov, chairman of the Sakhalin Oblast Executive Committee and Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] people's deputy, called on the inhabitants of the Kurils to firmly resist the defeatist attitudes of "individual Moscow leaders" concerning territorial demarcation with Japan. Addressing a meeting with the inhabitants of Iturup Island today, he described the consequences of the four islands in the south of the archipelago being handed over to another country as economic "disaster." Nikolay Pavlov and Sergey Baburin, RSFSR people's deputies, supported the Sakhalin leader.

Also today, these three Russian parliamentarians departed by air to the island of Shikotan. They are to address the inhabitants of Kunashir. Their trip is by way of responding, as it were, to the recent visit to the South Kurils by Georgiy Kunadze, deputy RSFSR foreign minister, Oleg Kalugin, USSR people's deputy, and Sergey Sirotkin, member of the Human Rights Committee of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet. The trip by the Russian diplomat and those accompanying him was termed by Valentin Fedorov as "the start of brainwashing—of preparing public opinion for giving up the Kurils."

Deputies To Inspect 'Actual Facts'

OW1010122291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1115 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russian MPs [Member of Parliament] Sergey Baburin and Nikolay Pavlov arrived in Yuzhnosakhalinsk on Tuesday [8 October]. According to Baburin, they came to see the actual facts behind "the artificially created problem of the Kuril Islands."

Throughout last week spontaneous and organized actions were held in Sakhalin against the supposed intentions of the Russian leadership to return the South Kurile Islands to Japan.

Pavlov told journalists that some members of the House of Nationalities suggested inviting Deputy Foreign Minister of Russia Georgiy Kunadze to report about his visit to Sakhalin Region. However, hearings were postponed till the second half of October in order to see the

outcome of the visit of the Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama to the USSR.

The leader of the Liberal-Democratic Party Vladimir Zhirinovskiy is reportedly expected in Sakhalin in the nearest future.

Meanwhile, according to IF's [INTERFAX] reporter in Vladivostok, the Maritime Regional Council has voiced support for the leadership and people of Sakhalin. Its deputy chairman Dmitriy Grigorovich has sent messages to counterparts in Sakhalin Region as well as the Russian parliament expressing solidarity with the Sakhalin Regional Council in defending national interests and the territorial integrity of Russia and voicing support for the struggle for keeping the Kurils.

Official Backs Return of Islands

LD1010135491 Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondents Anatoliy Krasnov and Vladimir Kutakhov]

[Text] Moscow October 10 TASS—"As a specialist, I can assert that we will lose no rich mineral deposits if we transfer the disputed islands to Japan," chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] State Committee for Geology and the Use of Natural Resources Dmitriy Fyodorov told TASS. "But my view as member of the Russian Government, as a citizen of Russia is that it would be more correct not to 'transfer' or 'sell' these islands, but simply to 'return' them to Japan."

Fyodorov believes this method of solving the conflict would be of great political and economic importance for the further promotion of Soviet-Japanese relations.

"The USSR Ministry for Fisheries has also repeatedly expressed readiness to develop cooperation with Japan. However, Japanese partners refuse to set up joint-stock enterprises, obviously adhering to the political line of the official authorities," USSR Deputy Minister for Fisheries Vyacheslav Zilanov told TASS. "There is yet another problem that also darkens the prospects for our cooperation. There were years when our frontier guards and fishing control organisations registered up to 10,000 violations by Japanese ships of zone where fishing is prohibited. The marine resources will run out if such rapacious fishing and ruthless application of drifting nets continue."

"Fish catches in the Russian Far East will drop by one-third if Russia reliquishes the four disputed South Kuril islands to Japan, while saury pike landings will diminish by 80 per cent," Zilanov noted.

"Politicians must not try to swap the islands for a peace treaty during the forthcoming negotiations. We must not overlook the fact that Japan is pressing for the eariest settlement of the territorial issue at a time when the Soviet Union is experiencing difficulties. If the four islands are transferred to Japan, the latter will obtain a large economic area of the sea known for its huge fish resources. But I doubt whether it will win the Russian people's favour," Zilanov stressed.

* * *

N.B. On the eve of Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama's visit to the USSR, TASS foreign information desk is continuing the publication of five materials on the Soviet-Japanese territorial issue. This is the third publication. It reveals the attitude of the leadership of the state committee for geology and the use of natural resources of the Russian Federation and the USSR Ministry for Fisheries to this territorial problem.

Popov Proposes Returning Islets

OW1110041391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0350 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 11 KYODO—Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov proposed Thursday [10 October] returning the four disputed islands off Hokkaido to Japan, the independent news agency Russian Information reported.

The islands—Shikotan, Kunashiri, Etorofu, and the Habomai group of islets—were seized by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II.

Popov, also a member of an advisory committee to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, said, however, that the process of returning the four islands must take a long time, the agency reported.

Dmitriy Fyodorov, chairman of the Russian Federation's Committee on Geology and Use of Natural Resources, also favored returning the islands to Japan, the TASS News Agency reported.

"As a specialist, I can assert that we will lose no rich mineral deposits if we transfer the disputed islands to Japan," Fyodorov was quoted as saying.

"But my view as member of the Russian Government, as a citizen of Russia, is that it would be more correct not to 'transfer' or 'sell' these islands, but simply to 'return' them to Japan," he was quoted as saying.

"This method of solving the conflict would be of great political and economic importance for the further promotion of Soviet-Japanese relations."

On the other hand, Vyacheslav Zilanov, Soviet deputy minister for Fisheries, showed opposition to returning the islands to Japan, TASS reported.

Zilanov said violations by Japanese ships of zones where fishing is prohibited is a problem which darkens the prospects for cooperation between the two countries.

"The marine resources will run out if such rapacious fishing and ruthless application of drift nets continue," Zilanov was quoted as saying.

"Fish catches in the Russian Far East will drop by one-third if Russia relinqishes the four disputed South Kuril islands to Japan," he said.

Regarding the upcoming visit by Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama to the Soviet Union, he said "politicians must not try to swap the islands for a peace treaty during the forthcoming negotiations."

Nakayama will leave Japan on Saturday for a weeklong visit to have talks with Soviet and Russian leaders.

Zilanov also said: "We must not overlook the fact that Japan is pressing for the earliest settlement of the territorial issue at a time when the Soviet Union is experiencing difficulties."

Vladimir Lukin, chairman of the Russian parliamentary committee for international affairs and foreign economic relations, said the territorial problem cannot be solved without having a referendum on the issue, TASS reported.

Lukin was quoted as saying that apprehensions that Russia may "suddenly" decide to transfer the disputed islands to Japan are "absolutely groundless."

Deputies Oppose 'Selling' Idea

PM1010153091 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Oct 91 Single Edition p 2

[By correspondent N. Bratchikov: "Far East Reportage": "The Kurils—Another Klondike"]

[Text] Sakhalin Oblast—Out of the hundreds of responses I received following my reportages from the Kurils entitled "On Our Most Distant Islands," published in PRAVDA in April prior to USSR President M. Gorbachev's visit to Japan, one that stuck in my mind was a postcard showing the Russian countryside. A quiet autumn pond amid parched reeds, a young birch grove in the distance awaiting the winter cold.

On the other side of the postcard reader N. Kravets wrote laconically: "I think the seizure of the Kuril Islands by Japan in the last century and a few hundred graves are not the reason for the emergence of the 'northern territories problem.' The problem is our degraded society, our country which has become a raw materials tributary to the capitalist world. God knows how many resources, assets, and national holy places have been squandered for absurd reasons! I found an interesting statistic in a book about Kamchatka: All Alaska's gold is roughly equal to the value of the resources of the Kamchatka salmon rivers in four seasons. So why does none of our present rulers value the maritime 'golden Klondike' of the Kurils, why are they prepared to hand it over to Japan for nothing, for the sake of political expediency?"

It is no accident that this message sprang to mind—it is remarkably in line with the opinion of the two cochairmen of Russia's parliamentary group, N. Pavlov and S. Baburin. Arriving in the Far East, as they put it, "on an entirely private visit with only one aim—to familiarize ourselves with the real situation concerning the artificially created problem of the Kurils," they quite clearly defined their attitude to the "disputed territories" by telling the people of Sakhalin: "A state that trades in its own territory is doomed."

On the same day, on a military aircraft, accompanied by Professor V. Fedorov, chairman of the Sakhalin [Soviet] Executive Committee and a large group of journalists, the deputies flew to Shikotan. They will spend two or three days there. At the first meetings at the local airports and at enterprises, the islanders expressed indignation at the obvious desire of government figures to "sell the islands," to which the Russian deputies replied unequivocally: Statesmen like that should resign, and this should be resolutely demanded.

Deutsche Bank Searches for Reliable Guarantees

OW1010011291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2200 GMT 9 Oct 91

[From the "Soviet Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Deutsche Bank AG, Germany's biggest bank, started negotiations with the International Centre for Business Cooperation (ICBC), a Russian commercial organisation, to establish a joint investment fund to finance bilateral business projects of Russian and German companies. Apart from the ICBC, participating in the project are several economic institutes of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Earlier, the centre launched negotiations with a number of large U.S. banks to set up, along similar lines, a Russian-U.S. Investment Fund with a capital base of several dozen million U.S. dollars.

The Russian leadership have already announced their readiness to give the Russian Government's guarantees to the Russian-U.S. investment fund.

German Automobile Plant Begins Production

OW1110020991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2147 GMT 10 Oct 91

[From the "Soviet Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Adam Opel AG, a German auto maker and subsidiary of General Motors Europe, announced Thursday the beginning of operations in the Soviet Union. Opel had signed its first-ever agreement in the USSR with Avtoimport, a Soviet company, under which the Soviet partner will sell Opel cars and spare parts and organize post-sale maintenance in the USSR. The first 300 cars and spare parts have already arrived in Moscow, and an Avtoimport service centre and storage

facility have been upgraded. Opel plans to sell 300 to 400 cars in the Soviet Union, say Opel officials.

Another agreement was signed between Opel and its agent in St. Petersburg (Leningrad). The first consignment of cars is expected to come to St. Petersburg within the next two months.

An Opel executive said that "contracts are being fine-tuned in other Soviet cities and in the Baltic states." The cars will be on sale there next year.

Kozyrev Prepares for Yeltsin's Visit to France

LD1010183791 Moscow TASS in English 1546 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondent Igor Kuleshov]

[Text] Paris October 10 TASS—A Russian delegation led by Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev arrived here today with a view to preparing Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to France, scheduled for January-February next year.

The establishment of direct contacts between the Russian Federation and the French Republic are expected to be discussed during Yeltsin's visit.

A programme for the Russian delegation's working trip includes talks with the leadership of the French Foreign Ministry, meetings and talks in the Ministry of Economics, Finances and Budget on specific matters concerning the development of relations between Russia and France.

Draft agreements determining the main forms and ways to broaden bilateral contacts in various spheres of cooperation are expected to be discussed.

In an interview published in the newspaper LIBERATION today, in response to a question as to how Russia intends to effect its own exchanges at a time when only the USSR's missions operate abroad, Kozyrev said that, in his view, there are now grounds to divide the USSR's diplomatic representation at embassy level between republics. However, the establishment of a direct dialogue between Russia and other states is essential, he said.

Finnish Foreign Minister Opens New Air Route

LD1010170291 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1630 GMT 9 Oct 91

[From the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Summary] A new Helsinki-Petrozavodsk air route opened today. It takes 1 hour and 20 minutes to fly from Helsinki to Petrozavodsk. The first person to use the air route is Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Vaeyrynen. He arrived in Petrozavodsk today for a one-day working visit. Asked about the issue of Soviet-Finnish borders, the foreign minister replied that Finland has no intentions to look into this matter. However, the Finnish side is very much interested in deepening cultural relations and the exchange of tourists.

Belorussia

Declaration on Cooperation With Poland Pending

OW1010171891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A joint declaration on good-neighbourliness and cooperation is to be issued by Belarus and Poland, the only nation so far to have recognized the statehood of Belarus.

A Belorussian delegation led by Prime Minister Vyacheslav Kebich has arrived in Poland today, Thursday, to sign the declaration. This will be the republic's first act of interstate relations.

Earlier the two sides had agreed to have no territorial claims on each other and to respect their minorites living in the other state - 300,000 Belorussians in Poland, for instance.

At the meeting with President Lech Walesa, Premier Belecky, the speakers of both houses of the Seym, and other statesmen, the delegation touched on the border and customs relations between the neighbouring states.

A member of the delegation—chairman of the republic's Foreign Relations committee Vladimir Ratkevic [spelling as received]—said later at a press conference that two more customs posts are to be opened in the coming months in Lomacheno and Berestovic to sevice only Belorussian citizens. Crossing the border will still require the existing SSR passports with special permits inserted.

New rail links are planned between Poznan and Brest, Minsk and Warsaw, and Belostok-Brest.

Kebich will include discussions of grain supplies to Belarus. Experts assess that this will last the republic only till the new year. The full requirement is 3.5 mn tons.

Ukraine

Fokin 'Convinced' Economic Treaty Necessary

LD1010193291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1816 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Anatoliy Grigoryev]

[Text] Kiev, 10 Oct (TASS)—"I am absolutely convinced that the treaty on an economic community must be signed," Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin told a news conference here today. "We cannot exist in isolation," he noted. "This treaty is extremely necessary, provided it does not undermine the state sovereignty of the countries which sign it."

Asked for his assessment of Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy's assertion that Russia would not recognize any economic unions whatsoever unless the republics conclude a political treaty very soon, the Ukrainian prime minister noted that he was alarmed by the position being taken at the moment by certain Russian leaders. He said that Aleksandr Rutskoy's statement was more emotional than businesslike. Anyone who now tries to provoke confrontation between the republics is taking a very great risk, he said.

Fokin believes that the treaty should be signed first by such major republics as Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus, and the Ukraine. This is in no way a discriminatory measure against other republics of the former Union. It is simply the case that unless tension over the material balances of these four republics is surmounted, it will be impossible to start the negotiating process with the others. "I am very sceptical about Grigoriy Yavlinskiy's proposal on the possibility of a so-called simultaneous conclusion of an economic treaty by all, or rather, almost all the components of the former Union," Fokin stressed.

Kravchuk Assesses Union Treaty

LD1010122291 Kiev Radio Kiev in English 0100 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Excerpts] The delegation of People's Deputies of the USSR and People's Deputies of Ukraine to the Soviet of the Republics; the representation of the Ukraine in the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet; the all-Ukrainian referendum; the draft law on amendments to the legislation of Ukraine on presidential elections in the republic; determining the maximum size of voluntary donations per one candidate running for president; appointment of the Chairman of the National Security Service of Ukraine—these questions were included on the agenda of today's sitting of the republic's Supreme Soviet. But the work of parliament began with debate on the resolution on the stand of the press, television and radio of Ukraine during the coup, and measures resulting from it. This document was also discussed at the former sitting but without result. Today, it was adopted by a majority of votes.

The resolution contains the following main points:

The Cabinet of Ministers is recommended to create equal possibilities for the publication of all political parties, public associations, as well as publications of work collectives to use state printing establishments. By 1 January 1992 the Cabinet of Ministers must solve the issue pertaining to the depolitisation and reorganization of the system of television and radio broadcasting in the republic, ensure conditions for the creative and economic independence of television and radio editorial offices. Besides this the Cabinet of Ministers is to examine the issue on setting up in the structure of the republic's Government a Ministry of Information of Ukraine, work out and introduce a system of state support to the press. [passage omitted]

As could be expected, the points of view were divided as to sending a Deputy group of Ukraine to the Soviet of the Republics and the Soviet of the Union of the USSR

Supreme Soviet during the transition period. The resolution in this connection reads as follows:

Taking into account the fact that the USSR Supreme Soviet, according to the law on bodies of power and management of the USSR in the transition period, has been granted the right to adopt laws which will be in force on the territory of the sovereign republics which contradicts the Constitution of Ukraine, the act on independence of the republic, the declaration on state sovereignty, the Deputy group of Ukraine to the Soviet of the Republics and Soviet of the Union at the USSR Supreme Soviet should not be delegated. [passage omitted]

Summing up the discussions, the Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine Leonid Kravchuk said:

[Begin Kravchuk recording in Ukrainian, fading to English translation] Our confidence boils down to the following: either we can or we cannot solve two questions. First, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet together with the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine delegates a group to the coordinating interrepublican body, which they are doing now. We have representatives in the interrepublican economic committee. We must hold consultations, and in order to to this we must set up an interrepublican body, and then we can participate.

For us, the Union with Russia is a cornerstone of Ukraine's policy, and I'm convinced that Ukraine and the Russian Federation will become independent sovereign states. Such is the historic process and no one can change it. Contacts with Russia are our long-term and far-sighted principal policy. This is our history, our roots, and we have to take this into account. We cannot overlook the fact that a large number of Russians live on the territory of Ukraine and we all must be equal. I favor Ukraine sending its delegation to the Soviet of the Republics. If we do not, then a question arises—will the laws adopted by the Soviet of the Union be obligatory for us? They will be. Who will defend our interests? We are entering a confrontation, a very serious political confrontation. We will not enjoy the support of either Russia or Belarus. [end recording]

Further, the deputies began discussing the holding of the referendum which is planned for 1 December. It is to determine the attitude of Ukraine's citizens to the act on independence of the republic, proclaimed by the Supreme Soviet. The deputies decided to adopt as a basis the resolution of the Ukraine Supreme Soviet on holding an all-Ukrainian referendum on 1 December, and sent it to be finalized by the standing deputy commission and then discussed at the next sitting of parliament.

Tomorrow the session continues its work.

Supreme Soviet Debates Ties With Republics

PM1110095191 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Oct 91 First Edition p 3

[Report by Lieutenant Colonel N. Gorenko under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Some Favor Resignation, Others Deferment"]

[Text] Kiev—A large group of Canadian and U.S. lawyers has visited the Ukrainian capital. The aim of the visit is to study and prepare the legal foundations for the conclusion of future bilateral and tripartite treaties between the Ukraine and the United States and Canada in the field of the economy, politics, and culture. The appearance of the foreign guests in parliament was marked by friendly applause from the people's deputies.

But hardly had the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet session embarked on a discussion of the agenda before not a trace remained of the consensus, unity, and conciliation. There was sharp criticism of the Cabinet of Ministers. It emerged that in the complex socioeconomic atmosphere the government was for the third time unprepared to report what it intends to do to get the republic out of the economic crisis. As Prime Minister Fokin stated, the Cabinet of Ministers needs at least two weeks to work out a package of draft laws.

Fokin also said that the report's deferment is needed to complete talks with the republics on the conclusion of the economic agreements which the Ukraine intends to sign primarily with Russia, Kazakhstan, and Belorussia. This was like pouring oil on the fire: A demand was heard from the opposition for the government's immediate resignation, "without leaving the auditorium." The people's council—the official opposition to the former communist majority in parliament—met for an emergency session. At the session a call was heard not to enter into any relations with the Union. Throughout the day there were several sessions, which proceeded amidst keen polemics. As a result the people's council expressed itself positively in favor of the Ukraine's ties with the republics, but exclusively economic ties. And parliament as a whole favored the deferment of the Cabinet of Ministers report.

Presidential Candidate Announces Platform

OW1010132991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1115 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The chairman of the Lvov regional council Vyacheslav Chernovil suggests that if he is elected the Ukrainian president the Ukrainian parliament dissolve [sentence as received]. If it refuses confidence in the parliament and president will be put to popular vote [sentence as received]. The contender for the presidency made the statement at a Kiev news conference on Wednesday.

Chernovil thinks that the Ukraine should not form any federations or confederations with former Soviet republics.

He supports a consistent transition to a market economy and social guarantees to different groups of the population. He does not intend to speed up privatization till the introduction of a Ukrainian convertible currency. "There is no need to sell the bulk of real estate, he said, for unconvertible roubles."

According to Chernovil, before August 19 he planned to join the election campaign with the sole purpose of making his views known without real hope to succeed. But as his main rival Leonid Kravchyuk demonstrated a lack of resolution during the coup, Chernovil believes himself to be the most probable candidate.

Law on Citizenship, Independence Adopted

LD1010100991 Kiev Radio Kiev in English 0100 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] At 6 pm yesterday [8 October], all of us, residents of Ukraine, became citizens of an independent democratic state of Ukraine and not citizens of the Soviet Union, which we were prior to this.

It was namely at this hour that the republic's parliament adopted a law on Ukraine's citizenship. Especially lively discussed was Article 1 of the law: Part of the deputies came out for a single citizenship and the other part for a double one. As a result of the attained comprise, the law reads in the following way: Double citizenship is admissible in Ukraine on the basis of bilateral agreements between states.

Anti-Independence Leaflets Distributed

OW0910190591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1730 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] An "Underground Committee of Rank-and-File Communists" set up in Odessa has begun spreading leaflets qualifying the Act proclaiming the Ukraine's independence as a right-wing coup.

The leaflets state that power in the republic has been seized by national-separatists (among them the chairman of the Lvov regional council Vyacheslav Chernovil and the leader of the Ukrainian Republican Party Levko Lukianenko) with the support of former Communist leaders.

The underground communist cell calls on former members of the party to set up a new marxist organisation without "traitors from the apparatus".

Moldova

Security Service Leaders Criticized

OW1010173691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Some former KGB officials in Moldova warn that the present leadership of the national security ministry includes persons who only recently were suppressing democratic processes. The newspaper VECHERNI KISHINEV has published a letter by former security officers criticizing the cosmetic changes allegedly transforming the republic's former KGB into a new Ministry of National Security as a profanation of the idea and mockery of Moldova's independence declaration.

"Absence of a legal basis for the new ministry or close parliamentary control is certain to result in abuse on the part of the security service", says their letter.

Further, the letter points out that whereas the centre and the other republics have cancelled the departments which acted against political opponents, Moldova has raised the status of such a department while keeping all the old cadres.

"What's more, persons have made it to the top of the ministry who have been in the old KGB inspiring, directing, and personally conducting the suppression of democratic processes", explains the letter from former KGB officers.

Party Seeks Treaty With Romania, Ukraine

OW1010123791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1115 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In the present political situation in order to reach true Moldovan sovereignty it is necessary to sign treaties between Romania, Moldova and the Ukraine guaranteeing the integrity and independence of the republic. The statement is made in an appeal of the coordinating council of the Moldovan Social-Democratic Party issued in Kishinev.

According to IF's [INTERFAX] reporter, the appeal also calls for putting an end to Soviet power in Moldova and adopting a new constitution "guaranteeing strict separation of the legislative, executive and judicial branches of power."

Jewish Emigration Continues To Grow

OW1010123891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1115 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Moldovan Visa Department has published a statistical report about Jewish emigration from the republic. While last year 15,230 Jews moved to Israel, in the first 6 months of this year already 10,640 [sentence as received].

Georgia

Parliament Confirms Support for Gamsakhurdia

OW1010191391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1740 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Georgian Supreme Soviet has declared its intention to do everything possible to defend human rights and freedoms in the republic, and as a first step, to promote the freedom of speech and the press.

The Supreme Soviet promised to encourage free entrepreneurship, agrarian reform and privatization.

In supporting the republic's president, the Georgian parliament pledged to strictly abide by the existing constitution and other republican laws.

The declaration said the efforts to restore Georgia's independence should be based on the work for greater democracy, which requires civil peace and concord.

Tbilisi 'Relatively Calm'; Deputies Powers Cut

LD1010134891 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1000 GMT 10 Oct 91

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] The Supreme Council of Georgia has adopted a resolution on the abolition ahead of schedule of the powers of people's deputies from the republic's communist party. According to reports from TASS correspondents in Tbilisi it was relatively calm in the city over the past 24 hours. Transportation and the shops are operating normally. However, the republican parliament building is being guarded by the militia just as before. The republic's Supreme Council assessed the recent events in the Georgian capital as an attempted coup d'etat and considers the only means by which political goals can be implemented is by using the rights guaranteed by the Constitution and the legislation.

Supreme Council Adopts Civic Peace Declaration

LD1010164391 Moscow TASS in English 1544 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondent Eduard Ediberidze]

[Text] Tbilisi October 10 TASS—The Georgian Supreme Soviet will show constant concern about establishing civic peace in the Republic and help ease current tension giving preference to a political dialogue, says a declaration adopted by the Georgian Supreme Soviet on Wednesday evening in conjunction with the present serious socio-political situation.

The declaration says the parliament will use its powers in full to protect human rights and freedoms. It emphasises that asserting the freedom of speech and the press will be an important step.

The declaration contains the determination to ensure the development of free enterprise, consolidate private property and speed up the agrarian reform and privatisation of material values.

Artillery Fire Reported in Tskhinvali

LD1010144691 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1330 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] The sociopolitical situation in South Ossetia remains extremely tense, a TASS correspondent reports. The autonomous oblast's information office has provided information that the guerrillas are continuously firing upon residential areas, where the state of emergency is in force.

Last night seven people were taken to the hospital with serious injuries, and an artillery barrage once again thundered in the suburbs of Tskhinvali. The Ossetian side returned fire on the guerrillas' positions. The economic blockade of Tskhinvali, which has a catastrophic shortage of food, medicine, and fuel, is getting tighter and tighter. Convoys carrying aid are unable to break through to the town.

Law on Entrepreneurial Activity

91US0750A

For this law published in the 13 August 1991 SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA, see the FBIS Report Soviet Union: Republic Affairs, FBIS-USR-91-031, dated 17 September 1991, pp 25-35.

Law on Fundamentals of Taxation

91US0777A

For this law published in the 7 August 1991 SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA, see the FBIS Report Soviet Union: Republic Affairs, FBIS-USR-91-033, dated 24 September 1991, pp 21-25.

Law on National Bank

91US0751A

For this law published in the 15 August 1991 SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA, see the FBIS Report Soviet Union: Republic Affairs, FBIS-USR-91-033, dated 24 September 1991, pp 25-30.

Armenia

Candidates Demand Postponing Elections

OW1010205691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1945 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Four of the six candidates for the Armenian presidency - Sos Sarkisyan, Paruir Ayrikyan, Rafael Kazaryan and Ashot Navasardyan. [spellings as received]—have urged the republic's Supreme Soviet to postpone presidential elections from October 16 till a later date.

"As active proponents of democracy and equality," says their appeal, "and considering that one of the candidates, Zoriy Balayan [spelling as received] joined in the election campaign later than the rest, we think it would be fair to delay the presidential elections and appoint a new composition of the Central Electoral Commission."

The appeal follows the annulment by the Armenian Supreme Court Collegium of the Central Electoral Commission's decision not to register USSR People's Deputy Zoriy Balayan as a candidate for the Armenian presidency.

Mr. Balayan himself has said the Supreme Court decision vividly proves the incapacity and incompetence of the Electoral Commission. He demanded that all Commission members responsible for the incident resign from their posts.

USSR Supreme Soviet Delegation Undecided

PM1010151791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[Sergey Bablumyan report under "Direct Line" rubric: "Will Armenia Send Deputies to Moscow?"]

[Text] Yerevan—The Armenian parliament has been unable to decide on the delegation of its representatives to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The formulation of the final position has not been helped by the two weeks that have elapsed since the previous discussion of this question in the republic's parliament. The deputies have once again displayed a variety of opinions.

Voting took place in accordance with the stands taken by the deputies: to play a full part in the work of the USSR Supreme Soviet, to participate as observers, or not to participate at all. Deputies voted by roll-call vote on all three approaches, and it turned out that the largest number of votes—although not enough to adopt a final decision—went to the proposal to give observer status to the republic's representatives.

Thus, the question of Armenia's participation in the work of the country's Supreme Soviet is once again up in the air. Nevertheless, observers do not rule out the possibility that the problem could be resolved after the election of a republic president in Armenia.

Azerbaijan

Paper Says Military Hardware To Withdraw

OW1010205391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1945 GMT 10 oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The newspaper of the Azerbajiani Popular Front, SVOBODA (Freedom) quotes a source that asked not to be identified as saying that the commanders of Soviet army units stationed in Azerbaijan have been ordered to withdraw without delay all sophisticated military hardware and weapons from the republic's territory.

The paper says the order came from the commission that has arrived in Azerbajian allegedly to make an inventory of weapon systems in the Transcaucasian military district.

Deputy Supreme Soviet Leader Resigns

OW1010191291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1740 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Tamerlan Karayev, deputy head of the Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet, has officially confirmed that he has been off duty since Wednesday.

Mr. Karayev, who is also the leader of the republic's Popular Front, told parliament on Thursday that he was leaving his parliamentary post in protest against the dumping of most opposition initiatives by the parliamentary majority. He urged MPs to discuss a vote of no confidence in the entire composition of the Supreme Soviet Presidium.

National Defence Forces Formation Debated

OW1010170491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Oct 10 the Azerbaijani parliament is holding a session behind closed doors debating the question of national defence forces.

Journalists and guests were asked to leave the room before the opening of the debate. The television transmission was also interrupted.

Parliament Speaker Survives Confidence Vote

LD1010220191 Moscow TASS in English 2136 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By Azerinform correspondent Anar Kadirli]

[Text] The members of parliament of Azerbaijan today brought in a vote of confidence in parliament speaker Elmira Kafarova.

This was confirmed by a secret ballot held on Kafarova's insistence during the afternoon meeting of the parliament's extraordinary session.

The members of the republican parliament had to resort to this procedure for the first time in the history of Azerbaijani parliamentarism [as received] after Kafarova stated that she could not be in charge of the parliament's proceedings in an atmosphere of distrust. After making the statement, Kafarova walked out of the conference hall.

While expressing support for the parliament speaker, the deputies balloted down two deputy speakers—Telman Orudzhev and Tamerlan Karayev.

The session will continue its work on Friday.

Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast

USSR Internal Troops Attacked

LD1010114991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0848 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Stepanakert, 10 Oct (TASS)—Last night an attempt was made to seize an outpost of the internal forces troops of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs in the Gadrutskiy rayon of Nagorno-Karabakh [NKAO].

According to a report from the commandant's office in the area where the state of emergency is in force, a sentry opened fire in time, having raised the detachment to arms. During the exchange of fire that started with individuals who have not yet been identified, two servicemen were wounded. There are no reports of losses among the attackers. The fighting continued until the morning, by which time the firing ceased.

Reinforcements of the internal forces troops have been brought into the area where the outpost is located.

The USSR internal forces troops are in Nagorno-Karabakh, an autonomous area on the territory of Azerbaijan, which is inhabited mainly by Armenians, to prevent interethnic clashes.

Shooting Continues Throughout Region

OW1010165691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Our correspondent reports that tension continues in Nagorno-Karabakh. Late Oct 8 a militia post near Hodjali, Askeran district, was strafed from automatic weapons from the side of the Armenian village of Nyuragyukh. One of the militiamen was killed. Next day a district centre—Martuni—was fired on from the direction of the Azerbajiani village Hodiavend.

In the small hours of Thursday a drinking water reservoir was blown up in the Shusha district cutting off water supply for Stepanakert which is short of water as it is.

Oct 9 a secondary school was shot at in Stepanakert, a six-form pupil was wounded and hospitalized. An operation by USSR Interior Ministry troops in Kirkidjan where the fire came from resulted in detaining six Azerbaijani suspects who possessed a submachinegun, a rifle and some shotguns. The arrest was also accompanied with a shoot-out in which one Azerbajiani was killed and still another wounded.

Cease-Fire Agreement Signed 11 Oct

LD1110085791 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0800 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] The situation in Nagorno-Karabakh may begin to normalize today. According to ARMENPRES, an agreement was signed in Stepanakert with the mediation of General Maksin, the commandant of the state-of-emergency area, between representatives of the Armenian and Azeri communities providing for a cease-fire starting 11 October, and for an exchange of hostages starting 12 October.

Details Noted

NC1110091591 Yerevan Radio Yerevan Network in Armenian 1600 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Report on statement by Maksim Mirzoyna, chairman of the Stepanakert City Soviet—read by announcer]

[Text] A cease-fire agreement was reached on 9 October between Askeranskiy and Shushenskiy Rayons and in Stepanakert through the mediation of the office of the military commandant of the state of emergency region.

Maksim Mirzoyan, chairman of Stepanakert city soviet executive committee, assessed this decision in a statement to ARMENPRES correspondent Aleksandr Grigoryan. Mirzoyan said:

In the wake of the armed incident in Kirkidzhan suburb of Stepanakert, General Maksin, the commandant of the state of emergency region, invited the leadership [words indistinct] of Nagorno-Karabakh, Stepanakert, and Askeranskiy Rayon to a meeting with him on 9 October. The

military commandants of the adjacent regions were also present at the consultative meeting. The meeting examined ways to stop the bloodshed. Speaking in the name of the city leadership, I declared that the criminal incidents could not be stopped because Stepanakert's former administrative status has not yet been restored.

Let me remind you that in violation of the existing laws and without the knowledge of Stepanakert city soviet executive committee, the Azerbaijani authorities made Kirkidzhan, which was previously part of Stepanakert, a town. The Azerbaijanis have opened a separate militia department there that currently employs 22 staffers. As is noted in the Zheleznovodsk communique, one condition for stabilizing the situation is the withdrawal of the Azerbaijani Special Purpose Militia Detachment from Nagorno-Karabakh and Kirkidzhan.

The need to lift the blockade was also discussed at the meeting. The representatives of Shusha [names indistinct] arrived (?late) at the meeting. A document composed of a few points was drawn up and signed. The document provides for the following: To cease firing on the settlement areas in these regions by 11 October 1991. To ensure secure transportation on all roads in Nagorno-Karabakh by 0800 on 12 October 1991. To work out a mechanism for agreement on exchanging hostages, to be implemented by 12 October 1991. To work out a mechanism for resolving problems raised by the Zheleznovodsk communique to be implemented by 16 October 1991.

Central Asian Affairs

Impact of Islam in Central Asia Assessed

PM1010113091 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Oct 91 Union Edition p 6

[V. Skosyrev article: "Islamic Revolution: Could It Be Exported to the USSR?"]

[Text] Religion is not the opiate of the people. At any event, in our country its revival has been one of the most gratifying signs of the times. Because many people, on discovering the precepts of Christianity, Islam, and the other religions that are current among us, are not only gaining faith. They are also shaking off the burden of spiritual aridity and cynicism that had become established in our state over many years.

However, if faith becomes fervor and turns into intolerance of atheists or adherents of other gods, it can promote not accord, but division in society. Only think how many crimes are committed on earth supposedly in the name of the Almighty. Protestants and Catholics kill one another in Ulster. Muslims and Jews join battle in Jerusalem. Saddam Husayn swallowed up Kuwait for six months under cover of the slogan of the jihad—holy war. Hindus, last year, all but stormed an ancient mosque, provoking a wave of intercommunal strife without parallel since the division of British India.

And what about our country? Religious fanatics have apparently not yet managed to win mass support. But there are plenty of grounds for concern. Take Central Asia. Recently the television and press, in connection with events in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, keep repeating one idea: The Central Asian republics could go the way of Iran. It is not hard to remember what that was. First upheavals, the convulsive throes of the Islamic revolution, then almost unlimited power for an ascetic old man who denounced the West and imposed with an iron hand the morality that existed in the seventh century in the time of the Prophet Muhammad. In other words, Iran under Ayatollah Khomeyni was, and is today to some extent, the model of a state governed by fundamentalists.

One could, of course, take the view that our commentators have let their imagination run away with them. But they are not the first to make this prediction. Let us quote L. Eyron [name as transliterated], a leading Sovietologist from the Heritage Foundation, which is involved in formulating foreign policy strategy for the U.S. Republican Party. On Soviet Central Asia, Eyron says: **"A firm impression is emerging that subsequent events will repeat Iran's experience: the emergence of a mass fundamentalist movement, the replacement of pro-Western intellectuals by Muslim clergy as the source of leadership and inspiration and... after the inevitable victory over Moscow, the formation of several fundamentalist Muslim states, perhaps with the exception of Russianized Kazakhstan."**

In L. Eyron's opinion, a number of factors favor the creation of theocracies in Central Asia: the lack of democratic traditions in a region most of which moved directly from feudalism to communist totalitarianism; the disastrous economic situation; the political instability resulting from poverty, unemployment, and the demographic explosion. There are also external factors. About half a dozen states—among them Afghanistan, Iran, and Saudi Arabia—will launch a struggle for influence in Central Asia, fanning the flames of interethnic conflict, supplying arms, and maybe waging wars there through their underlings.

The Sovietologist from the Heritage Foundation has undeniably formulated a gloomy scenario. But surely there is another possible course of development? Surely the peoples inhabiting the region are not predestined to suffer this fate? First and foremost, I would not sweep aside this prediction, if only because the social milieu that fosters fundamentalism in the foreign states of the East exists in our Central Asia too. After all, Islamic radical currents spring up everywhere as the reaction of people who feel deprived and reject the ideas preached by the higher authorities. All these factors—poverty and disappointment in values imposed from outside (Marxist-Leninist values in this case) are indeed present in Central Asia.

All the same, there is a major flaw in the analysis of L. Eyron and some other Sovietologists who share his views. Firstly, after the failure of the August putsch Moscow stopped playing the part of imperial center forcibly keeping recalcitrant outlying regions in the Union. So it can hardly be right to talk of the Central Asians' "inevitable victory" over Moscow. The powerful irritant that was pushing Muslims into the extremists' embrace is gradually disappearing.

Second, there is not much sign of aggressive aspirations on the part of Muslim states toward our southern republics. True, Afghan guerrillas have laid mines in the border zone and penetrated Soviet territory on a number of occasions. But that is most likely a residual effect of our military intervention in Afghanistan. Because Moscow is now freeing itself step by step from its commitments to remain on the side of the Najibollah regime to the last, our conflict with the mujahidin should become less acute. Or so one would hope. Not for nothing does even G. Hekmatyar, leader of the fundamentalist party among the mujahidin, declare that when the war ends he intends to establish normal relations with the northern neighbor.

As for Iran, even in Khomeyni's lifetime its leadership tried to maintain good-neighborly relations with us. Of course, the ayatollah made no secret of his desire to convert us to Islam, and he even appealed to M.S. Gorbachev in 1989 to send him the best Soviet scholars so they could acquire the wisdom of the Koran and apply that knowledge to improve our unseemly communist life.

I do not know what impression the message made on our president. But when I went to Tehran and talked with officials, I discovered that they do not intend to abandon the ayatollah's precepts, and in particular the export of Islamic revolution. However, Foreign Minister A.A. Velayati told me, the export of revolution means the export of culture and ideas, no more than that.

I am inclined to believe this, at least as far as our state is concerned. After all, Iran, which suffered eight years of war with Iraq, has yet to recover from the consequences. The economy is suffering a recession, albeit not as devastating as ours. Moreover, Tehran is still ostracized by the West, particularly the United States. The Americans' military presence in the Persian Gulf, formalized in the recent agreement with Kuwait, is perceived there as a direct threat. Is it conceivable that in these conditions the pragmatic President Hashemi-Rafsanjani would deliberately seek to destabilize the northern border?

On the contrary, I found among my interlocutors a pronounced cautiousness in assessing separatist sentiments in our own country. In view of the close ethnic relationship between the population of the Union's southern republics and Iran, people there are afraid that disorders, growing into rebellions, may spread to their own territory.

That leaves Saudi Arabia, which plays a special role in the East both as custodian of the Muslim holy places, and as an all but bottomless safe packed full of petrodollars. Until recently it resisted Soviet influence in the Third World wherever it could. Afghan mujahidin detachments were equipped out of Saudi money. But given that we have not only withdrawn our troops from Afghanistan, but, from 1 January, will stop supplying weapons to Najibullah, the last obstacles to an improvement in Riyadh's relations with Moscow should disappear. Given the tranquil development of events, we can expect both a widening of contacts among the clergy, and Saudi capital investments. Who could be threatened by that?

And another aspect, perhaps the most important of all. **Fundamentalism is by no means the dominant current in Islam. Despite the growth in the strength of the warring factions, fundamentalists have not succeeded in gaining power in any country of the Middle East or North Africa, with the exception of Iran. Moderate Islam stands against them, and it takes a tolerant view of political and social freedoms.** And if the democrats succeed in establishing cooperation with clergymen and convincing the faithful that a worthy place will be assigned to religion, then the emerging sovereign republics will retain their lay character, that is, will follow the Turkish path. London's THE ECONOMIST magazine considers this a realistic alternative.

What can we say about this alternative? Clearly, Turkey is not Europe. Democratic institutions have not become firmly established and national minorities feel oppressed. Nonetheless religion does not impose its canons on the state; thanks to political pluralism and the introduction of market mechanisms, the economy is flourishing. In short, I do not find the Turkish option objectionable.

Of course, the future will also depend on Moscow, on how much tact the renewed "center" shows in its relations with the Muslim republics. The former great-power approach should be written off once and for all. Only then will the new shoots of democracy that have sprung up on the stony Central Asian soil be able to grow strong.

Kazakhstan

Nagorno-Karabakh Observers Named

OW1010191591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1740 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan has named the republic's delegates to the group of observers in Nagorno-Karabakh which will be set up under the September 23 document signed by Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Nazarbayev after their visit to taht autonomous region.

The Kazakh observers will be led by USSR People's Deputy and adviser to the republic's president Yerkin Auelbekov [spelling of name as received]. The delegation will include republican MPs [members of parliament], officials of the Home and Foreign ministries, and procurators. There will also be a press group that will cooperate with Russian colleagues in providing unbiased coverage of the Karabakhi developments.

The Kazakh observers will strictly observe the principle of non- interference in a sovereign republic's internal affairs. They are expected to work out measures to normalize the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, neutralize the local armed units that have been identified as unlawful, work for the release of hostages and create security guarantees for the Karabakhi people.

Kyrgyzstan

President Against Economic Union Treaty

LD1010202891 Moscow TASS in English 2001 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 10 TASS—President Askar Akayev of Kyrgyzstan has come out against a draft economic union treaty which has been adopted as a basis for further discussion by the USSR Council of State.

"The draft treaty manifests very obvious centralist trends and little trust in the independence of republics," Academician Akayev, 47, who now stands for the second presidential term, told the newspaper IZVESTIYA in an interview published on Thursday.

Akayev, who was elected to the Republic's presidency in October last year, is the only candidate for new presidential elections scheduled for October 12, 1991.

He believes that an economic union treaty is necessary but that it should be based on the already existing horisontal ties.

"It is not republics that should adapt themselves to an economic treaty but it is a treaty that should be adjusted for republics," Akayev said.

No Change in 12 Oct Presidential Election

LD1010210891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1315 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Bishkek, Oct (TASS)—The date for the presidential elections in Kyrgyzstan remains the same—12 October—says a report from the president's press service. A TASS correspondent had asked about reports in the press about a new date for the Republic's presidential elections.

Tajikstan

Presidential Elections Postponed to 24 Nov

PM1010152191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Oct 91 Union Edition p 1

[A. Karpov report: "Tajikistan: Referendum To Be Held on Confidence in Parliament"]

[Text] Talks between the Republic of Tajikistan leaders and leaders of opposition political organizations and movements have been completed.

During the past two weeks, during which a large rally continued in the square outside the Supreme Soviet building, several attempts were made by the sides to find a way out of the intense political crisis that has hit the republic. The acute conflict required intervention by neutral mediators. A. Sobchak and Ye. Velikhov, members of the Political Consultative Committee under the country's president, who have come to Dushanbe, have assumed this role, as has already been reported.

Difficult discussions went on for three days, and the republic eagerly awaited its results. Late on Sunday night local television reported that a resolution, which was coordinated with all the participants in the talks, was adopted by the Tajik Supreme Soviet Presidium. This document notably proposes the postponement of the date of the presidential elections from 27 October to 24 November. It is likely that a referendum will also be held on this day on the question of confidence in the parliament.

Taking advantage of the right granted by the law on elections for the presidency of the republic, R. Nabiyev, chairman of the Supreme Soviet and candidate for the post of president, announced that he is giving up his duties until the end of the election campaign. All political parties and movements and all contenders for the top state post in the republic have been granted equal opportunites to appear on radio and television. A specially formed commission made up of journalists will supervise the activity of the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting.

The document contains an appeal from the Supreme Soviet Presidium to members of parliament to rescind legislative bans on the existence of parties of a religious nature, as they are not state structures. World practice testifies to the fact that their activity does not contradict democratic norms.

"One of the main reasons for the political crisis in Tajikistan was the attempt to preserve communist structures," A. Sobchak said in answer to questions from journalists. "Unfortunately the republic's parliament, which has adopted mutually exclusive decisions three times in the past month, has played a negative role in this."

Islamic Party To Increase Political Activities

OW1010174091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 10 oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Tajik Islamic Party hopes that in the referendum coming Nov 24 the people will vote for disbandng the Communist parliament which will permit it to step up its political activities competing for seats in the republic's chairman of the so far unregistered Islamic Party Davlat Usmon [spelling as received].

D. Usmon stressed that the party will support democratic reforms in the republic, and promote better economic, political, and cultural contacts with other countries of Muslim Orient.

Uzbekistan

President Reviews Alma-Ata Economic Accord

LD1010202391 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1630 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Video interview with Uzbekistan President Islam Karimov by unidentified correspondents on 10 October, place not given; from the "TV Inform" newscast—recorded]

[Text] Economic cooperation between sovereign states; Uzbek President Islam Karimov reveals his opinion on this in our program today.

[Unidentified correspondent] Islam Abduganiyevich, given today's complicated economic situation, will independent Uzbekistan gear itself more toward southern states or northern neighbors, and traditional ties of long standing?

[Karimov] We have declared our independence within the framework of the Soviet Union, in other words within that very union that we are going to join as an equal among the equals, and as independent sovereign states. The aspect of who we should maintain our relations with; well, I think it is obvious that we cannot suddenly break those ties that have been built over a number of decades.

As for the proposals regarding the establishment of independent relations with our southern neighbors, such as Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, I think that this issue should also be tackled, first and foremost, from the viewpoint of the interests of present and future Uzbekistan.

[Unidentified correspondent] In this connection, Islam Abduganiyevich, what constructive actions in your view need to be taken by sovereign republics or sovereign states today in order to make an Alma-Ata agreement work more effectively.

[Karimov] First, the Alma-Ata agreement needs to be signed. I sincerelh regret that a lot of people, who hold the same views as us and who have been working on this agreement for a long time, found themselves today in a false situation, so to speak. The country will simply cease to exist without an economic agreement. That is why, regardless of when we resolve our political relations and of how we resolve the issues of political and state superstructures, the most important and urgent issue today is, I think, us sitting down without any deal and tackling the issues of signing an economic agreement as soon as possible. This should be done to escape the tragedy that we could face this winter. We promised that we will, at any rate, fulfill all obligations concerning all Uzbekistan's supplies and all incoming supplies at the level of 1990.

Democratic Party Decree on Party Congress

LD1110084591 Tashkent Radio Tashkent Network in Uzbek 0300 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Decree of the organizational committee of the People's Democratic Party of Uzbekistan of 4 October, 1991 on convening the constitutent Congress of the People's Democratic Party of Uzbekistan—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. The Constitutent Congress of the People's Democratic Party of Uzbekistan should be convened on 1 November, 1991 in Tashkent city. The agenda should include the following issues:

Formation of the People's Democratic Party of Uzbekistan; the tasks of party organizations; the program of the People's Democratic Party of Uzbekistan; the charter of the People's Democratic Party of Uzbekistan; the election of the chairman of the party; the election of the Central Committee of the party and of the Central Supervisory Commission.

2. One hundred delegates to the Congress to be presented from the Republic of Karakalpakistan, provinces, and Tashkent city party organizations.

3. To confirm the preparations for the Constitutent Congress of the People's Democratic Party of Uzbekistan by the Republic of Karakalpakistan, the provinces of the republic, and the (?temporary) committees of Tashkent city.

In the cities, rayons, districts, and the countryside, within one week, to form and affirm (?temporary) committees, and party organizations to be formed in residential areas for starting active [word indistinct] and political work.

4. The (?temporary) committees should register the members of the People's Democratic Party of Uzbekistan by 25 October and simultaneously register five members [words indistinct].

The draft programme and the draft charter of the People's Democratic Party of Uzbekistan should be examined at the gatherings and conferences by 25 October.

The city, the Republic of Karakalpakistan, and the oblast party conferences should select delegates to the Constitutent Congress of the party; the proposals and observations made during the examination of these documents should be passed without delay to the organizational committee.

5. The organizational committee should give the members of its (?temporary) committees, residential areas, work collectives, and other authorized places, as well as the mass media the draft program and charter of the People's Democratic Party for examination by 25 October this year.

[Signed] Karimov, chairman of the organizational committee.